

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING JOHN L. JERMAIN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize John L. Jermain of Conception Junction, Missouri. John celebrated his 80th birthday on July 12, 2005 and it is my privilege to offer him my warmest regards on achieving this important milestone.

In addition to being a fine grandfather, Mr. Jermain is a respected farmer and dedicated community member in Conception Junction. He fought for the United States of America with honor in Korea, and I am grateful for Mr. Jermain's patriotism and service to our nation.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing John L. Jermain. It is an honor to represent him in the United States Congress, and I wish him all the best for many more birthdays in the future.

AUGUSTINE GALLEGGO: THE SAN DIEGO CHICANO FEDERATION'S LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, Augustine "Augie" Gallego has provided decades of leadership to our community through his distinguished career in higher education.

Named chancellor of the San Diego Community College District in 1990, Augie exemplified the values of lifelong learning. A leading proponent of improving diversity in education and the workplace, Augie collaborated with elementary and secondary schools, universities and employers to broaden access for all individuals.

In 2002, Augie led the \$685 million capital improvement campaign for the San Diego Community College District. As the bond campaign leader and chief fundraiser, Augie met with community groups, business and community leaders, giving more than 50 presentations during a three-month period. During that time, he raised a vast majority of the \$600,000 needed for the "Yes on Proposition S" public awareness campaign and endorsements from both Democrat and Republican members of Congress, the State Legislature, San Diego City Council and the San Diego Taxpayers Association. Today, the San Diego Community College District has experienced many improvements as a result of Augie's efforts.

Augie continues to initiate efforts within the Community College District and to assist other community colleges to expand international programs, exchanges and expanding curriculums to improve understanding and appreciation of diverse cultures throughout the world.

He has served as the chairman of the board of directors for the International Community Foundation, a San Diego-based organization committed to fostering lasting philanthropy to benefit international communities throughout the Americas and Asia in the areas of education, community development, health, the environment and cultural endeavors. The organization recently granted awards to support projects in Mexico, China, India, El Salvador, Ecuador and Canada.

Augie has an extensive background in public service and has served on the board of directors for the San Diego Dialogue (a public policy organization based at the University of California, San Diego), the International Community Foundation, United Way of San Diego County and the Commission on Children, Youth and Families.

He has clearly demonstrated dedicated, selfless and meaningful work that has made a positive difference in the lives of thousands of people in our community and throughout the world.

Congratulations, Augie, on this Award for Lifetime Achievement!

THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT'S SUCCESSFUL METHODS OF RESPONDING TO HURRICANES

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, Everyone acknowledges that the United States has lessons to learn from the disgraceful Federal and local response to Hurricane Katrina. Even the President has ordered a review of the government response to the hurricane and declared that necessary changes must be made to be better prepared for the future. Perhaps we could learn lessons from an island just 90 miles south of Florida that is frequently buffeted by hurricanes. Yesterday CNN aired the following story about the Cuban Government's successful methods of responding to hurricanes:

CNN TRANSCRIPT: HURRICANE RITA, LESSONS FROM CUBA?

SEPT. 20, 2005.—Lloyd: You hear a lot about evacuations as a hurricane nears; yesterday, the mayor of Galveston, Texas—where Rita could be headed—declared a state of emergency in that city. She also said mandatory evacuations will start today. In Cuba, which sits on the northern edge of the Caribbean Sea, the government usually has strict guidelines in place for hurricanes. Lucia Newman went to the island nation to bring us this story about Cuba's secrets for saving lives.

Lucia Newman, CNN reporter: Cuba is the largest and most populated island in the Caribbean yet it consistently experiences the lowest death tolls during hurricane season. According to United Nations, it's not because Cubans are lucky but because they're prepared.

"We were prepared for a big one, and big it was," says this man of Hurricane Ivan. He and nearly 2 million others were evacuated from low lying areas and fragile buildings ahead of the hurricane. Nobody was killed.

Preparations for a hurricane start well in advance. The same system that gives the communist state total political and economic control is used efficiently to mobilize the nation to face natural disasters.

State run television and the civil defense authority bombard the population with information and instructions about what measures to take. On every block, there's a person assigned to take a census on who is being evacuated to which shelter, with special attention paid to the elderly and pregnant women.

"We have a list, and tell each person where they have to go and there, they're taken care of," says Llanee Perez.

In the fishing village of La Coloma, which is vulnerable to hurricane flooding, a massive evacuation was mandatory. The police and army were responsible for guaranteeing there was no looting. Electricity is cut ahead of the hurricane to prevent electrocutions.

After Hurricane Ivan, the seaside village of Las Canas looked like a ghost town. Its residents evacuated days earlier. But while many lost much of their belongings, at least no one had to cry over the loss of a loved one. Lucia Newman, CNN, Havana.

RECOGNIZING JOHN STACY

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of a great American, John Stacy. It is my privilege to bring before the House of Representatives the occasion of his 60th birthday.

John Stacy was born on October 5, 1945 in Coleman, KY to his proud parents, John and Bertha Stacy. After he completed his education, he began serving his country, entering the United States Marine Corps in June of 1965. After completing the rigors of boot camp, he went on to serve in a number of capacities, including the area of Motor Pool Transport, as a colonel's personal driver, then as a career planner and a member of the Hostage Negotiations Team. Eventually he became an instructor for the Officer Advanced Course for Military Police.

He also served overseas on a number of occasions between 1966 and 1981, including a tour in Vietnam, two tours of duty in Okinawa, and time at Subic Bay in the Philippines.

During this time, John was continuing to rise through the ranks, achieving the rank of gunnery sergeant. But others saw the distinction he brought to his duties, and he was recognized as the Marine Corps Outstanding Military Citizen for Georgia in 1984.

In 1985, John retired from the Marines at his gunnery sergeant rank after 20 years of service to our Nation and to our freedoms.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

That alone would seem to be enough to make a life worthwhile. But as those of us who have friends who are Marines know, a Marine never truly retires.

And John didn't retire either—he had begun working with the Boy Scouts of America before finishing his time with the Marine Corps, and his “retirement” from the Marines only meant he had more time to invest in the lives of others. He served with the Boy Scouts for a total of 10 years, working as a camp ranger and the program director of Camp Osborn. During that time, he had an active role in molding the lives of young men through the Boy Scouts, and led them by his example of service as he helped turn those boys into men.

But John wasn't finished yet. His experience in police duties and law enforcement led to the request that he serve as executive director of the Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police, GACP, the largest professional association for law enforcement administrators in the State of Georgia. In that role, he took an active part in ensuring law enforcement was effectively represented at the State Capitol, and that the more than 1,000 executives representing agencies from across the State had their voices heard. The position with the GACP also moved John and his family to Columbus, GA.

Soon John received another call to service, and saw his influence grow wider. Senator Paul Coverdell needed regional representatives as he sought to put his staff together to effectively serve constituents from across the State after his election in 1992. John served effectively in that position, representing the Senator, and serving people in need from around the area.

Tragically, however, Senator Coverdell passed away while in office after a stroke, and Zell Miller, a former Governor of Georgia, was appointed to fill the great void left by the death of Senator Coverdell.

After the transition was complete, Senator Miller asked John to stay on his staff, and he continued to serve as regional director, and eventually assisted in the opening of an office in Young Harris, the Senator's hometown.

John continued to serve with Senator Miller until the Senator's retirement at the conclusion of his term in January of this year. And, as my term in the U.S. Congress began, John came on to my staff as my district director. He has served with distinction already, and his knowledge of the people of the Eighth District has been invaluable.

But if you set aside all the things a person has done, you can always learn a lot about a man by his family. And John meets that test as well. During all of his service to our Nation and the great State of Georgia, John has been married to a truly wonderful lady, his wife Elaine. They have just celebrated their 39th wedding anniversary. And John is the father of two children, Graham and Janet, who continue to carry on their father's vision of service to others.

And this great man, and great American, who has achieved so much, is now celebrating his 60th birthday.

Mr. Speaker, I lay before you the life and achievements, so far, of a great American, and hope all the House will join me in wishing him the best birthday wishes as he continues to serve all of us in this country.

RECOGNIZING ANDREW S. CARLISLE FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Andrew S. Carlisle, son of David and Susan Carlisle of Saint Joseph, MO. Andrew is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 31, and by earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout. Andrew will receive his Eagle Award on October 2, 2005 at Saint Francis Xavier Parish Center.

Andrew has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the 5 years Andrew has been involved with scouting, he has earned numerous merit badges, honors, and leadership positions. Andrew has served his troop as assistant patrol leader, patrol leader, assistant senior patrol leader, senior patrol leader, quartermaster, and troop guide. Andrew is a member of the Tribe of Mic-O-Say and completed Junior Leader Training. During his years in the scouts, Andrew spent 5 years at summer camp, and participated in canoe trips down the Niangua River. For his Eagle Scout project, Andrew did trail work at Bluff Woods Conservation Area.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Andrew S. Carlisle for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CONGRATULATING NASA AND THE “DISCOVERY” CREW

HON. TOM DELAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the gentleman from California's resolution honoring the men and women who led, launched, and piloted Space Shuttle *Discovery* out of our atmosphere, and into history.

I had the opportunity earlier this afternoon to visit with *Discovery's* crew: Commander Eileen Collins, Jim Kelly, Charlie Camarda, Wendy Lawrence, Soichi Noguchi, Steve Robinson, and Andy Thomas.

I have met them before, and they're as impressive in person as they will be in the history books.

Last month, these seven astronauts—and the entire NASA family—took President Bush's new Vision for Space Exploration and turned it into a reality, taking the first small steps into the space age of the 21st century.

The president's vision calls for the shuttle's return to flight to be followed by the completion of the International Space Station, the development of a new crew exploration vehicle, and eventual missions back to the moon and on to Mars.

Discovery's mission to the space station began that process, and earlier this week,

NASA announced its design and plans for the new spacecraft.

America's space program is on a roll, and we will build on that momentum, Mr. Speaker, all the way from here to the red planet.

The men and women of NASA represent the courage and drive that got our Nation into space and on the surface of the moon four decades ago.

That spirit is now igniting a new generation of astronauts and engineers, who will take our Nation ever higher, ever farther, ever deeper into the unknown.

The NASA community—whether here on earth or high above—have done heroic work in the last 2 years refocusing their efforts toward the president's vision.

The goals he has put before them would seem almost impossible to most people—and that's exactly how our space community likes it.

Congress and the entire Nation owe the *Discovery's* crew—and NASA's earthbound support staff—a debt of gratitude for their successful mission, and the only way to repay that debt is to make sure we work to finish the job they have so bravely started.

RECOGNITION OF BAYAUD INDUSTRIES

HON. BOB BEAUPREZ

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. BEAUPREZ. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity today to recognize Bayaud Industries, a non-profit corporation whose sole purpose is to provide job training and placement to the mentally and physically disabled in my home state of Colorado.

Founded in 1969, Bayaud Industries has provided services to over 5,000 disabled individuals and is currently counseling 200 people per year. Even after placement, Bayaud Industries continues its support, making sure that each of their clients has a case worker they can turn to, once they begin their first job.

According to the National Mental Health Association “the unemployment rate in the United States for individuals with disabilities is approximately 75 percent, the unemployment rate for individuals with psychiatric disabilities are even higher at 80 percent”. People who have the ability to go work find satisfaction in their jobs because it gives them the opportunity to do something useful everyday, sadly, many with disabilities feel they have to live without this sense of accomplishment. Employment can give any person a strong sense of pride and belonging, this is the goal Bayaud Industries has accomplished for over the past 35 years.

The need for companies such as Bayaud Industries is apparent; Bayaud creates an invaluable link between the American workforce and the disabled. Mr. Speaker, I not only commend the actions of this company with their dedication to the physically and mentally disabled, but also for their commitment to businesses across Colorado.

REGARDING AMERICAN GOLD
STAR MOTHERS DAY**HON. TODD TIAHRT**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, this Sunday, September 25th, is American Gold Star Mothers' Day. This important day honors not only fallen patriots, but the grieving families they left behind.

Throughout our America's history, brave men and women have left their mothers and fathers to take up arms in defense of this Nation and its ideals. Sadly, many of these heroes never return home. Although our nation will be forever grateful of their ultimate sacrifice, too often we do not remember the sacrifice of their families, especially mothers, who are left behind.

For over 75 years, the American Gold Star Mothers organization has stood strong in support of mothers who have lost their children in service to this country. Serving as a support group and a service organization, American Gold Star Mothers, Inc is a shining example of American compassion and strength. I am thankful to have an American Gold Star Mothers' chapter in Wichita, tirelessly serving and supporting one another in south-central Kansas.

This Sunday, I hope we can all take a moment to remember the sacrifices made for this country and say a prayer for the families that were left behind. I know that it is not natural for a parent to experience the loss of a child. They deserve our love, support and gratitude. We will never forget those who served and those who lost.

May God bless America, and may God bless our Gold Star Mothers.

RECOGNIZING DR. JOHN R. DIXON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Dr. John R. Dixon of Brookfield, Missouri. Dr. Dixon will celebrate his 100th birthday on September 14th, and the town of Brookfield will be honoring Dr. Dixon's birthday with a parade among other festivities. It is my privilege to offer Dr. Dixon my warmest regards on achieving this important milestone.

Dr. Dixon was born on September 14, 1905. In 1931, Dr. Dixon opened his first medical practice as a physician and surgeon in Linneus, Missouri, a few miles northwest of Brookfield. In 1935, Dr. Dixon joined the Missouri National Guard which began a long career of patriotic service to our national through the Armed Services. Dr. Dixon served the United States of America with honor as a flight surgeon in World War II, Korea, and Vietnam.

Dr. Dixon still maintains his license to practice medicine, plays golf once a week, and drives himself. He is an active, vibrant, and healthy member of the community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Dr. John R. Dixon of Brookfield, Missouri as he begins his tenth decade. It is an honor to represent him in the United States Congress.

SAM DURAN: THE SAN DIEGO CHICANO
FEDERATION'S COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD!**HON. BOB FILNER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, Sam Duran has devoted more than 30 years of his life to empowering, advocating and improving the lives of inner city youth. As the founding chief executive (CEO) of the Urban Corps of San Diego, Sam has grown the organization from its original budget of \$120,000 to more than \$5 million. Under his direction, the organization has been responsible for training, employing and providing educational opportunities for 5,700 at-risk youth.

The mission of the Urban Corps of San Diego is to provide job training and educational opportunities to young adults in the fields of conservation, recycling and community service, which assists them in becoming more employable, while protecting San Diego's natural resources and instilling the importance of community involvement.

Sam's passion is empowering youth. He inspires leadership by helping young people provide for themselves through solid education and environmental job training within a structured environment. It has been through Sam's continuous personal belief and commitment to empowering underprivileged youth from all walks of life, and giving back to the community through integrity and hard work, that the Urban Corps of San Diego has had the honor of being the only conservation corps to have ever received a grant from the Smithsonian Museum to conduct a survey of all outdoor sculptures in the county of San Diego. The Urban Corps assessed and cataloged the condition of San Diego's outdoor sculptures in order for the Smithsonian to begin the important and much-needed work of repairing and preserving them for future generations to cherish and enjoy.

He has been a committed community leader, environmentalist and activist for his entire adult life. During his tenure as Academy Superintendent for the California Conservation Corps from 1978–1980, Sam oversaw the life skills training for 740 youth per month. As a board member of the National Association of Service and Conservation Corps, Citizens for Clean Air Policy and EarthShare of California, he is actively involved in statewide conservation efforts and has contributed to the empowerment of youth in the conservation and environmental fields through education and vocational job training.

Sam also served as the Deputy Director of Eureka Communities, a nonprofit organization created by San Diego philanthropist Deborah Szekely, to increase the capacity of executive directors of community-based organizations to improve the lives of children, youth and families in need. In that role, he encouraged other nonprofit leaders to raise environmental awareness in their organizations and communities; to better the lives of disadvantaged children and youth; and to create forums for learning exchanges that would expose leaders to effective methods and best practices throughout San Diego and the nation.

In addition to his service on the task force created to advise President Bill Clinton on

AmeriCorps, Sam serves on the boards of the San Diego Juvenile Justice Prevention Commission, the San Diego Maritime Museum, the Conservation Corps State Museum, San Diego Riverpark Foundation and the Farmworkers Institute for Education & Leadership Development (FIELD).

Sam is also a decorated Vietnam veteran who holds a Bronze Star and an Air Force Commendation with two Oak leaf clusters.

Congratulations, Sam, on this Award for Community Service!

RECOGNIZING DR. FRANK BROWN

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I recognize the accomplishments of a great citizen of the Eighth Congressional District, Dr. Frank Brown.

Dr. Brown is best known to those of us from Georgia as the President of Columbus State University, and has served in that capacity since 1988. Dr. Brown has overseen the dramatic growth of the university, and worked closely with the City of Columbus to make the school a central part of the city.

But we were able to see another side of Dr. Brown last month, when he was awarded the Distinguished Citizen Award by the Boy Scouts of America, Chattahoochee Council. The Chattahoochee Council gives the award to recognize an individual or group that undertakes outstanding service to our nation, the state, or the local community. By presenting the award, the Chattahoochee Council calls attention to the honors the contributions and good works of individuals.

Dr. Brown is a worthy recipient, due to his commitment to his community. It is my privilege to lay such an achievement before the House.

IN HONOR OF THE OPENING OF
THE ANDERSON-ABRUZZO INTER-
NATIONAL BALLOON MUSEUM**HON. TOM UDALL**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to rise today to commemorate the opening of The Anderson-Abruzzo International Balloon Museum, in Albuquerque, New Mexico. This museum celebrates and honors the long-standing tradition of ballooning in the Land of Enchantment. This opening is the culmination of a tremendous effort on the part of the Anderson and Abruzzo families and devoted friends and business partners, all of whom have shared in the vision and dream to create a world class collection of ballooning memorabilia and equipment.

The exhibits and programs stand as a testament to the history, science and art of ballooning. This museum will be a significant addition to the city known as the "The Balloon Capital of the World" and will prove to be a wonderful complement to Albuquerque's annual International Balloon Fiesta.

This commanding building is a fitting tribute to Albuquerque balloonists Ben Abruzzo and Maxie Anderson who are recognized internationally for their first non-stop crossing of the Atlantic Ocean by gas balloon. Not only will this museum serve as a constant reminder of their legacies, but it will also offer extensive and educational exhibits that will inform and broaden ballooning enthusiasts for years to come.

The Anderson-Abruzzo International Balloon Museum will serve as an educational institution. The museum's innovative educational outreach plan includes field trip opportunities, lectures, and an emphasis on integrating the Balloon Museum into the Albuquerque Public Schools curriculum.

I am pleased to congratulate the Anderson-Abruzzo International Balloon Museum and all of those whose efforts and contributions have made this opening possible. I would like to especially thank the Anderson and Abruzzo families, whose vision and continued dedication have been the driving factor in the museum's completion. I would also like to thank the City of Albuquerque for embracing and financing this project. I am proud to join the community in celebrating this amazing new addition to New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I ask that all my colleagues rise to congratulate the many professionals and volunteers who have helped to make this wonderful new museum a reality.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE TEMPORARY AGRICULTURAL LABOR REFORM ACT OF 2005

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce, along with my friend and colleague Representative MARION BERRY of Arkansas, the Temporary Agricultural Labor Reform Act of 2005, a bi-partisan bill to reform the H-2A guest worker program. As Chairman of the House Agriculture Committee, I have traveled across the nation and seen first-hand that the H-2A temporary visa process is not working. I have talked face to face with producers who have to deal with participating in a costly, time-consuming and flawed program. For example, employers have to comply with a lengthy labor certification process that is slow, bureaucratic and frustrating. In addition, they are forced to pay an artificially inflated wage rate. My bill will streamline the cumbersome requirements of the current H-2A program to make it a more viable option for our nation's farmers.

Likewise, as a long-time Member of the House Judiciary Committee, I understand the immigration problems that currently face our country. Illegal immigration penalizes those legal immigrants and citizens who play by the rules. It is estimated that there are over 10 million illegal aliens currently living in the United States. This population grows by over 350,000 each year. Clearly, this situation has reached crisis proportions and cannot be allowed to continue.

Some believe that the only way to reform the guest worker program is by including amnesty provisions and allowing illegal aliens to adjust to Legal Permanent Resident (LPR)

status. However, this would create the wrong incentive by encouraging foreign nationals to come into the country and break our laws. Amnesty is unfair to those foreign nationals trying to comply with our laws and encourages more people to come into the U.S. illegally with the thought that they, too, will get rewarded for their illegal actions in the future.

My bill would not grant an amnesty. Instead, it would require that anyone wishing to participate in the guest worker program must first return to their home country and apply from there to participate legally. This requirement will help us track who is entering our country and will create an incentive for those currently present illegally to return home and begin the process again while respecting our immigration laws.

In addition, this legislation would address a troublesome wage issue. Employers are required to pay an inflated wage called the Adverse Effect Wage Rate or AEWR. The AEWR was designed to protect similarly situated domestic workers from being adversely affected by guest workers coming into the country on a seasonal basis and being paid lower wages. However, the shortage of domestic workers in the farm workforce forces employers to hire foreign workers, and thus, is also forcing them to pay an inflated wage. My bill abolishes this unfair wage and creates a prevailing wage standard, under which, all workers are paid the same wage as workers doing similar work in that region.

The facts are simple. Agriculture needs a reliable guest worker program. Workers need access to stable, legal, temporary employment. It is in our national security interest to create a sensible way for workers to come in on a temporary basis, work, and go back to their home countries. My bill addresses problems in the guest worker program, and I look forward to working with Representative BERRY and all of the Members of this body to reform this program and make it a more viable process for everyone involved.

HONORING MR. BRUCE DE YOUNG ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. The work of educating our youth is one of the highest callings to which an individual may aspire. The values and information imparted to the minds of our children remain with them throughout their lives helping to guide their decisions and consequently, the directions of their families, communities, state, and our nation.

In recognition of the outstanding dedication of one man to this noble calling, I am pleased to extend my warmest commendation to Mr. Bruce De Young on the occasion of his retirement as Superintendent of Schools in the Ramsey, New Jersey Public School District.

Since 1992, Mr. De Young has served in the position of Superintendent of Schools, yet his dedication to education extends over many more years. Indeed, Mr. De Young has devoted thirty-six years to the field of education. From his position as Mathematics Supervisor for the Ramsey Public School District, to his

tenure as Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, through his present position of Superintendent, Mr. De Young has enjoyed a career focused on providing the best education to his students.

Mr. De Young's contribution, however, reaches even beyond the classroom. As a member of the Legislative Committee of the New Jersey Association of School Administrators and a member of the Bergen County Association of School Administrators, the Association for Supervisors and Curriculum Development, and the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, Mr. De Young has been willing to share his experience and knowledge for the purpose of bettering educational quality for countless students, both in New Jersey and across this great nation.

Moreover, through his willingness to mentor other Superintendents as they travel the path to permanent certification, Mr. De Young has ensured that his contribution to education will last not only throughout his career but also well into the future.

It is, therefore, with great honor and humility that I offer my sincerest appreciation and congratulations to Mr. De Young on the occasion of his retirement and I wish him a future filled with continued success.

RECOGNIZING BLAINE EVAN STECK FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Blaine Evan Steck of Kansas City, Missouri, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 314, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Blaine has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities and earning numerous merit badges. I am especially proud of Blaine's accomplishment, because he received the Citizenship in the Nation Merit Badge for his visit to my Washington office and the Communications Merit Badge after writing a letter to me about the California legislature's attempt to prevent the Boy Scouts from using public facilities.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Blaine Evan Steck for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE RETIREMENT OF ROBERT McEWAN AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF CONTRA COSTA

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the career contributions of Robert

McEwan to the Housing Authority of the County of Contra Costa and to the wider arena of affordable housing and redevelopment.

Bob has led the Housing Authority for 7 years as a director who values the knowledge and expertise of his employees, seeks their input, and earns their respect and loyalty for relating to them as he relates to everyone, fairly and sincerely.

During those 7 years, the Housing Authority faced and weathered a crisis of change in ways that the Federal Government compensates public housing authorities for the shelter and services they provide. Under Bob's leadership, at the prospect of shortfalls, the employees of the Housing Authority of Contra Costa did not retreat from their high quality standards of service to their customers and the community.

Bob has left his mark of professional excellence in the wider community of nonfederally funded affordable housing. The Bay Point 180-unit DeAnza Gardens Apartments, which he has served as corporation president, won the 2005 National Merit Award from the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials. Bob has also served as a leader in local, regional and State organizations of his peers.

Mr. Speaker, I honor Bob McEwan today for his qualities of leadership by example, commitment to professional standards, and genuine regard for the welfare of the people who live in the housing he has devoted his professional life to providing.

"What do we all want?" he asks about affordable housing. "A safe community for our kids, an attractive environment, a home we are proud of. That's what DeAnza is all about".

That's what Bob McEwan is all about. I wish him a blissful retirement in the company of his wife Jean, family, friends, fellow fishermen, and, on occasion, the surprised fish, fresh from a mountain stream, having an unexpected out-of-water experience.

COMMENDING THE CLEBURNE LIONS CLUB ON ITS 85TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. CHET EDWARDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Cleburne Lions Club on its 85th Anniversary.

The Cleburne Lions Club was chartered on October 20, 1920 with 27 members with J. R. Keith as its first President and is the largest and most active service club in Johnson County and a member of Lions Clubs International—the world's largest service organization.

From its very beginning, the Cleburne Lions Club has been a vital part of the community—touching the lives of countless Cleburne and Johnson County citizens through humanitarian efforts and public service.

The Cleburne Lions Club provides funding for the Texas Lions Camp for Handicapped and Diabetic Children, the Texas Lions Foundation (Humanitarian and Disaster needs, Texas), Texas Eyeglass Recycling Center, Leader Dogs for the Blind (Guide Dogs), Lions

World Services for the Blind, Lions Clubs International Foundation (Humanitarian needs—Worldwide), Lions Organ and Eye Bank, Lions Drug Awareness Council, and Julian C. Hyer Youth Camp (Youth from around the World).

The Cleburne Lions Club continues to be involved locally in a wide range of activities such as Adopt-a-School (reading and listening to children read and assisting with other activities at Adams Elementary School), sponsoring Lions drug awareness speech contest and diabetic essay contest for high school students, delivering meals-on-wheels to the elderly and handicapped, providing free eyeglasses for needy children, providing college scholarships to students at Hill College and Southwestern Adventist University, volunteering for the Salvation Army bell ringing, assisting with Whistle Stop Christmas and Christmas parade, sponsoring handicapped and diabetic children attending Texas Lions Camp, collecting used eyeglasses for recycling and shipping to developing countries, providing guidance and assistance to Lions Clubs in Mexico, and leading and assisting with numerous local community improvement projects.

It is my honor and privilege to commend and congratulate the Cleburne Lions Club on its 85th anniversary and peerless record of service to Cleburne and Johnson County, Texas.

RECOGNIZING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF FLINT, MICHIGAN

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, it is with a tremendous sense of pride that I rise before you today to recognize the 150th anniversary of my hometown, Flint, Michigan. This milestone will be celebrated with a series of events, during Homecoming Weekend September 23–25. Activities include a commemorative parade, pedal boat rides on the Flint River, and the opening of the newly renovated Flint Institute of Arts, just to name a few.

Although incorporated in 1855, Flint was first founded in 1819 by fur trader Jacob Smith. The fledgling community, located on the banks of the Flint River, prospered under the trading, trapping, and lumber industries, which in turn brought more settlers to the area. In the 1840's, Flint became famous for its carriage production. One such group, the Durant-Dort Carriage Company, purchased a tract of land in Flint and used the site to create a network of factories with the intention of maintaining all aspects of carriage production in close proximity. Under the leadership of William C. Durant, and with the help of Robert J. Whaley and Flint's own Citizens National Bank, this company grew to become what we know today as General Motors. Since then, Flint's history has been perpetually linked with the auto industry. The 1937 Sitdowners Strike served as a defining moment in the creation of the United Auto Workers. The Buick factory, where my father worked, and the other General Motors facilities in the Flint area served as one of the nation's greatest contributors during both World Wars, producing engines, parts, tanks, and other materials used by Allied forces in defense of the Free World.

Over the years, Flint grew to become Michigan's fourth largest city, with a population of approximately 125,000 people. It is also home to a cultural center spanning 30 acres, institutions of higher learning such as Kettering University, C.S. Mott Community College, and the University of Michigan-Flint, outstanding medical centers, thriving commercial areas, and internationally renowned events such as the Crim Festival of Races.

New projects and developments help guide its progress toward the future, while at the same time honoring and preserving its rich past. Centuries-old homes and buildings stand side by side with modern works of architecture, chronicling a new chapter in the city's history. Residents and visitors are welcomed to the downtown area by majestic arches, just as they were 85 years ago. And then there is perhaps Flint's greatest treasure, its residents. From those who have lived here for a generation to those calling it home for the first time, it is the people of Flint—my friends and neighbors—that shall always serve as its true nucleus. As a lifelong resident of Flint, my memories of the city shall always remain with me. From growing up with my family, to serving as the Member of Congress for the city, I will always look upon the city fondly; it is my home.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to acknowledge the efforts of Mayor Don Williamson, the Flint City Council, the Sesquicentennial Committee, and all event sponsors for their vision in recognizing the need to acknowledge this occasion. Again, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to please join me in congratulating Flint, Michigan on its 150th anniversary.

RECOGNIZING JONATHAN KEMPER FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jonathan Kemper, son of Howard and Linda Kemper of Saint Joseph, Missouri. Jonathan is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 31, and by earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout. Michael will receive his Eagle Award on October 2, 2005 at Saint Francis Xavier Parish Center.

Jonathan has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the eleven years Jonathan has been involved with Scouting, he has earned numerous merit badges, honors, and leadership positions. Jonathan has served his troop as Patrol Leader, Senior Patrol Leader, Historian, and Troop Guide. Jonathan holds the rank of Runner in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say, and participated in Junior Leader Training and was a member of the Junior Leader Training Staff. During his years in the scouts, Jonathan attended Camp Geiger and Philmont Scout Ranch. For his Eagle Scout project, Jonathan refinished a fence.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jonathan Kemper for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America

and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

MARISA UGARTE: THE SAN DIEGO CHICANO FEDERATION'S COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker: Passionate. Visionary. Bold. These are a few of the words used to describe Marisa Ugarte in a recent column in the San Diego Union-Tribune. As the executive director of the Bilateral Safety Corridor Coalition (BSCC), Marisa epitomizes all of these and more in her fervent quest to save children from pimps who pander them to pedophiles on both sides of the US-Mexico border.

With more than 20 years of experience advocating for exploited men, women, children and at-risk youth, Marisa has made her vision a global crusade over the past several years. While the BSCC is best known for its fight against sex trafficking, Marisa reports there are other issues that need attention drawn to them. They include the fate of sweatshop workers and young women working as maids and housekeepers, who Marisa says serve as indentured servants, working off the enormous debts made to get them into this country.

With a mission of 'preserving the dignity and well-being of commercially and sexually exploited women and children through prevention, intervention and education,' Marisa's organization collaborates with about 80 government and nongovernmental agencies in Mexico and the United States that strive to reduce slavery and human trafficking. They include the U.S. Justice Department, the U.S. Border Patrol Victims Unit, the University of San Diego, Departamento de Integración Familiar (DIF), and more.

The BSCC's vision is 'to live in a world where there is zero tolerance for exploitation and where women and children's lives are protected and held in high esteem.' Recently, the organization received a grant from the State Department to work on both sides of the border.

Marisa grew up in Mexico City and New York City. For the past three years she has created social service programs in Tijuana, Mexico. Marisa is the founder of the Binational Crisis Line in Tijuana, as well as the Domestic Violence Crisis Center for Sistema Nacional para el Desarrollo Integral de la Familia (DIF), Tijuana. It was there that she became interested in advocating for those who have become victims to sex trafficking. (Marisa continues to be an advisor to DIF and to the Civil Protection and Disaster Crisis Prevention Program in Mexico.)

In the US, Marisa convenes annual anti-trafficking conferences in San Diego, and is an active speaker at similar conferences nationwide and internationally on human trafficking and the commercial sexual exploitation of women and children. Her public speaking engagements have included: Artesana, (Successful Coalition Building), Texas; the Millennium Conference, and the International Institute (Restructuring the Justice System in Mexico). She was a presenter at the follow-up

conference at the Yokohama Children's Rights Conference (for Latin America and Costa Rica) and at conferences in Mexico, San Salvador and Costa Rica.

Marisa also taught at the University of California, San Diego; the University of San Diego, and the University of Xochicalco, Mexico.

Congratulations, Marisa, on this Award for Community Service.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF SIMON WIESENTHAL

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Simon Wiesenthal, beloved husband and father, author, Holocaust survivor, Jewish activist, and tireless pursuer of justice who passed away yesterday at the age of 96.

Mr. Wiesenthal was born and raised in Buczaz in what is now known as the Ukraine. There he pursued a career in architectural engineering until he was taken to a forced labor camp in 1941. For the next four years Mr. Wiesenthal was transferred between twelve concentration camps until he arrived at Mauthausen concentration camp in northern Austria. He remained in Mauthausen until May 5, 1945 when the camp was liberated by the American army.

In 1947 Mr. Wiesenthal opened the Jewish Historical Documentation Center for the purpose of collecting evidence for trials against Nazi war criminals. Mr. Wiesenthal worked diligently for the rest of his life in the pursuit of any and all Nazis responsible for Holocaust atrocities. Mr. Wiesenthal is credited with aiding in the capture of over 1,100 Nazi war criminals. Most notable amongst these arrests are Adolf Eichmann, an architect and implementer of Hitler's "Final Solution," and Franz Stangl, the commandant at Treblinka where an estimated 800,000 Jews died.

Mr. Wiesenthal received many honors including: decorations from the Austrian and French resistance movements, the Austrian Cross of Honor of the Sciences and Arts, the Dutch Freedom Medal, honorary knighthood from the United Kingdom, the United Nations League for the Help of Refugees Award, the Luxembourg Freedom Medal, the French Legion of Honor, and the U.S. Congressional Gold Medal.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of Simon Wiesenthal, whose dedication to the pursuit of justice has ensured that the atrocities of the Holocaust will never be forgotten. I extend my deepest condolences to the family of Simon Wiesenthal, members and employees of the Simon Wiesenthal Center, and the community of Holocaust survivors. Mr. Wiesenthal will surely be remembered in history for his tireless dedication to justice and his commitment to fighting prejudice and honoring those who lost their lives to the horrors of the Holocaust.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MELISSA L. BEAN

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Ms. BEAN. Mr. Speaker, due to circumstances beyond my control, I was unable to vote on final passage of H.R. 250. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on final passage of H.R. 250, The Manufacturing Technology Competitiveness Act of 2005 (Rollcall Vote 485).

RECOGNIZING JASON ROBERT STEN FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jason Robert Sten, son of Kathy Holmquist and Patrick Sten of Saint Joseph, Missouri. Jason is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 31, and by earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout. Jason will receive his Eagle Award on October 2, 2005 at Saint Francis Xavier Parish Center.

Jason has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the 8 years Jason has been involved with Scouting, he has earned numerous merit badges, honors, and leadership positions. Jason has served his troop as Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Scoutmaster, and Troop Guide. Jason holds the rank of Runner in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say, and earned the Mile Swim Award. During his years in the scouts, Jason spent 8 years at Camp Geiger and was a member of the Junior Leader Training Staff.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jason Robert Sten for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN MARSHALL ON THE OCCASION OF THE 250TH AN- NIVERSARY OF HIS BIRTH

HON. ERIC CANTOR

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, this Saturday, September 24th, marks the 250th anniversary of Chief Justice John Marshall's birth. The principal founder of American constitutional law and one of Virginia's finest sons, Marshall's 34 years of leadership brought the United States Supreme Court great prominence.

His education, experiences, and service to the Commonwealth of Virginia enabled him to serve this country as Supreme Court Justice. Chief Justice Marshall presided over numerous landmark cases and authored many of the Supreme Court's most influential opinions.

Under his guidance, the Supreme Court from 1801 to 1835 expanded the definition of commerce, solidified the Supreme Court's dominance over the State court system, and defended the Federal Government's implied power.

These contributions and many others came after the first, and arguably most important, opinion he penned—judicial review. Shortly after his ascension to the bench, Chief Justice John Marshall affirmed the ability of the Supreme Court as the only body to decide the constitutionality of Federal or State law under the United States Constitution.

It is fitting that Marshall's birthday occurs at the same time as the United States Senate considers John Roberts' nomination to be Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. Like Marshall, Roberts would become chief justice at a relatively young age.

It is reported that Roberts would touch the statue of former Chief Justice Marshall that sits at the Supreme Court for luck before each case he argued. It is clear that John Marshall established an enduring legacy.

EXPRESSING DISAPPOINTMENT
ABOUT THE VOTE ON CONYERS
AMENDMENT TO CHILDREN'S
SAFETY ACT

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I want to express my disappointment about a vote that was taken in this House last week.

The House took up very important, long overdue legislation to protect America's children and keep despicable predators off our streets.

However, an abominable amendment was offered by a Democrat that had no business being a part of the Children's Safety Act.

The noble and monumental Children's Safety Act was tainted by the Conyers amendment that seeks to punish people for their thoughts, specifically if they believe homosexuality is wrong.

While considering a great Republican bill that will crack down on pedophiles, rapists and murderers, the self-motivated Democrats instead took the opportunity to further their out of touch agenda.

I voted against the Conyers amendment and I am truly saddened that it passed.

The Children's Safety Act is so important and will do so much good in our country that I still voted for final passage despite the inclusion of this awful, unrelated amendment.

The opportunity to vote to protect American children from monstrous criminals could not be declined simply because there was a blemish on otherwise outstanding legislation.

RECOGNIZING RYAN E. JONES FOR
ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE
SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Ryan E. Jones, son of Chris and

Colleen Jones, of Saint Joseph, Missouri. Ryan is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 31, and by earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout. Ryan will receive his Eagle Award on October 2, 2005 at Saint Francis Xavier Parish Center.

Ryan has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the years Ryan has been involved with Scouting, he has earned numerous merit badges, honors, and leadership positions including Patrol Leader and Troop Guide. Ryan is a member of the Tribe of Mic-O-Say, and spent almost every summer at Philmont Boy Scout Ranch.

For his Eagle Scout project, Ryan cleaned up brush and mowed at Happy Hallow Cemetery.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Ryan E. Jones for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE 50TH AN-
NIVERSARY OF MCGUCKIN'S
HARDWARE

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the 50th Anniversary of McGuckin's Hardware Store in Boulder, Colorado. McGuckin's is a landmark in Boulder and has long had a very special reputation for stocking hard-to-find items.

McGuckin's was opened in 1955 by Bill McGuckin, a rugged outdoorsman and avid fisherman. The store originally consisted of only four employees and four departments with a business ethic based on Bill McGuckin's belief in personalized service, selection, and first-hand experience. In 1960, Dave Hight joined his father-in-law, Bill, as a partner, and together they committed themselves to fostering McGuckin's well-deserved reputation as "the Greatest Hardware Store in the World."

After Mr. McGuckin's passing in 1966, Mr. Hight continued the excellent service and selection offered to customers. His company continued to grow over the next 50 years, and today, this independently-owned business has prospered to employ 315 individuals in all its operations. In addition to its 60,000+ square foot sales floor with over 200,000 items for sale, there is a Design Center and a Distribution Center nearby to meet every customer's need. You name it, they have it. When there's a problem with something they sell, they fix it. In the unlikely event they don't have that particular something for which you were looking, their knowledgeable, experienced staff knows where to order it and does so with a friendly manner and without a fuss.

Not surprisingly, McGuckin's has developed a loyal and devoted clientele. Boulder's Daily Camera readers have voted it "Best Hardware Store," "Best Locally-Owned Store" and "Best Customer Service." "Best Customer Service" is an understatement; McGuckin's employees are beyond comparison. They wear green and

are found in almost every aisle. You can still find Dave Hight in the middle aisle. They give plain, old-fashioned, perfect service with no hovering or hard-sell. No matter which department they work in, they all know where everything in the store is located.

McGuckin's quality service doesn't stop with humans either; this store welcomes pets on-leash too. As dog-lovers on my staff will tell you, most of Boulder's best-behaved dogs and puppies began refining their social skills by shopping in McGuckin's pet supply department. Employees dressed in green will greet customers and their pets and will often ask permission to give the dog a treat. While I have never tried one, I am reliably informed by pet owners that if you give permission, the most "delectable tidbits" come out of those green smock pockets. McGuckin's is, therefore, not only a big hit with people working on their week-end home improvement projects, it is also popular with Boulder's canine population.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in acknowledging David Hight and his employees for their commitment to uniquely serving their customers. If you're ever visiting Boulder, I hope you'll have the chance to go to McGuckin's. You won't be sorry and you won't find any store like it in this day and age. I congratulate David Hight and all the employees and their families on this 50th Anniversary and wish them good health and happiness in McGuckin's future.

IN RECOGNITION OF BILL AND
MARGURITE ADDISON

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, William and Margurite Addison are a wonderful couple who have provided a permanent home for five children who were part of the State foster care system. Although the Addisons had thought their childrearing years were finished when their own biological children had become young adults (Ms. Addison has four biological children, ranging in age from 34 to 41, and Mr. Addison has two birth children, ages 29 and 35), they opened their home to one of Mr. Addison's nephews, Ralph, (now age 17) in 1992. The Addisons became approved foster parents for Ralph in 1994 and subsequently decided to open their home to non-relative foster children when they realized how many children were in desperate need of out-of-home care.

In 1998, the Addisons were approved as an adoptive resource for Ralph and their adoption was subsequently finalized that year. However, that was only the first of what ultimately became five adoptions. In 1999, Malik (now age 9) was adopted, Kevin (now age 3), was adopted in 2000, Warren (now age 6) was adopted in 2003, and Bryleigh (now age 3) was adopted in 2004. Except for Ralph, each of these children had come to the Addison home via the foster care system as drug-exposed infants (none of them are related). In addition, Warren suffers from sickle-cell anemia, as well as emotional/behavioral difficulties. Ralph has received special education services in school and it is likely Warren will also need a special school setting.

Mr. Addison is an educator and administrator at the Regional Institute for Children and Adolescents (RICA), which is a State-run facility for emotionally handicapped youngsters. In addition, he has facilitated anger management groups at the House of Ruth (a shelter for victims of domestic violence) or men who have a history of domestic violence.

Ms. Addison was a former truant officer for the public school system and has been active in supporting other adoptive families by developing an adoption support group for families that have adopted through the Baltimore City Department of Social Services. Although the support group is no longer active, she continues to support approved prospective adoptive families who are currently waiting to be matched with a child who needs a home.

PROTECTING MEDICARE BENEFICIARIES DURING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MEDICARE PART D DRUG PROGRAM

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise with my colleague Representative JAN SCHAKOWSKY (D-IL) to introduce the Medicare Informed Choice Act. This bill provides needed extra protections for beneficiaries during the first year of implementation of the new Medicare prescription drug program.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has announced that participation rates by private drug plans and new Medicare Advantage plans in the new Part D drug program will be much higher than originally predicted. There will be an average of 40–50 plans per region in the country. Babette S. Edgar, finance and operations division director in CMS's Medicare Drug Benefit Group, was recently quoted saying, "There's going to be a lot of choice out there . . . It's going to be very, very confusing for [beneficiaries]."

We agree with Ms. Edgar. That's why we're introducing the Medicare Informed Choice Act. It is a simple bill with three important protections:

(1) Delays late enrollment penalties: Beneficiaries need adequate time to make an informed choice. The bill expands the existing six-month open enrollment period to the entire year of 2006. This will give people added time to do the research and make the best decisions for themselves. Six months is not adequate time to reach and counsel 42 million beneficiaries on this complex new program.

(2) Protections against bad choices: This provision gives every Medicare beneficiary the opportunity to make a one-time change in plan enrollment at any point in 2006. Marketing is sure to be very aggressive and people may make a bad choice. Given the importance of the decision they make, it is appropriate to give beneficiaries a one-time chance to correct an initial mistake made during the first year of implementation.

(3) Protections for employer-provided retiree benefits: Some retirees might not understand that purchasing Part D coverage could cost them their retiree health benefits. This provision would protect retirees from being dropped by their former employer's plan during the first

year of implementation, so that beneficiaries have time to correct enrollment mistakes.

Medicare beneficiaries are going to soon begin getting bombarded by information on the new drug benefit. Some information will come directly from the government in the form of the 2006 Medicare & You Handbook, a government insert in an upcoming edition of Parade Magazine, government-prepared television advertisements, and mailings from Health and Human Services and the Social Security Administration, communications from their Members of Congress and Senators, and more. On top of all of these messages, they'll be recipients of direct marketing from untold numbers of private plans urging them to join their drug plan. They'll also likely hear from advocacy organizations like the Medicare Rx Access Network, State Health Insurance Programs around the country, and senior organizations. If they currently have retiree health benefits, they'll hear from their former employers as well.

Medicare beneficiaries are being told that there will be counselors available to assist them at 1–800–Medicare and at local State Health Insurance Programs around the country. We know from experience that these phone lines and support services will be overburdened. Beneficiaries should not pay the price for a support system that may not operate effectively. To avert that, we must inject some flexibility into the implementation period.

The Administration's own actuaries are concerned that participation rates will be far lower than they'd initially anticipated—they've announced figures as low as 9 million out of Medicare's more than 40 million beneficiaries. Again, CMS is right to be concerned. We appreciate their recognition of the pending chaos for seniors and people with disabilities.

By delaying late enrollment penalties, giving every beneficiary a chance to change plans during the first year, and protecting those with employer-provided retiree health benefits, we can make sure our constituents are not forced into making quick—and wrong—decisions during the first year of this new program. By providing this flexibility, it is our hope that people will feel more confident in their ability to make an informed choice.

We are pleased that Representatives DINGELL, RANGEL, MILLER, WAXMAN, BROWN, and PALLONE—Congressional leaders on health care policy—have all joined us in introducing this legislation today. The bill has also been endorsed by leading senior citizen advocacy groups including: the Alliance for Retired Americans, the American Federation of Teachers, the Center for Medicare Advocacy, Consumers Union, Families USA, the Medicare Rights Center, and the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare.

We urge CMS Administrator McClellan, HHS Secretary Leavitt, President Bush and Republicans in Congress to join with us to help mitigate the weight of the difficult choices that beneficiaries will have to make by endorsing the Medicare Informed Choice Act and working for its swift passage.

Let's work together to make sure that initial choices don't negatively impact Medicare beneficiaries who may have acted without all the information needed to make the best choice. Protecting Medicare beneficiaries should not be a partisan endeavor. We look forward to working with Members on both sides of the aisle to enact this important legislation.

RECOGNIZING CASEY M. DUPREE FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Casey M. Dupree, son of Keith and Carol Dupree of Saint Joseph, Missouri. Casey is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 31, and by earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout. Casey will receive his Eagle Award on October 2, 2005 at Saint Francis Xavier Parish Center.

Casey has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the six years Casey has been involved with Scouting, he has earned numerous merit badges, honors, and leadership positions. Casey has served his troop as Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Senior Patrol Leader, and Troop Guide. Casey holds the rank of Tom Tom Beater in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. During his years in the Scouts, Casey spent six years at Camp Geiger, and went on both the Canoe Trip and Katy Trail 50 Mile Bike Ride for three years.

For his Eagle Scout project, Casey stained flower boxes for Our Lady of Guadalupe Church.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Casey M. Dupree for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING THE OUTSTANDING ENVIRONMENTAL RECORD OF LEXMARK INTERNATIONAL

HON. BEN CHANDLER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. CHANDLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to shower praise on my constituents at Lexmark International, whose recent awards for environmental excellence show yet again the extremely impressive commitment of Lexmark to environmental protection.

As I am sure most of my colleagues know, Lexmark is one of the world's leading manufacturers of printers and developers of cutting-edge printing solutions for enterprises large and small. Lexmark is headquartered in Lexington, the heart of the Sixth Congressional District of Kentucky, and truly has become a global leader in the information technology sector.

Having toured Lexmark's headquarters and having viewed the range of highly-sophisticated equipment that Lexmark offers, and having met with one impressive engineer and manager after another during my visit with Lexmark, I congratulate Lexmark on being one of the true industrial gems of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

I am especially proud of Lexmark because when my grandfather served as Governor of Kentucky, he attracted Lexmark's predecessor, IBM, to the location Lexmark so

proudly occupies today. When I work with my friends at Lexmark, I will confess that I am mindful of my grandfather's role decades ago.

Lexmark does more than produce great products and systems for its customers. It upholds an environmental ethic that has been in place since the company's inception in 1991.

Most recently, Lexmark's headquarters was awarded with ISO (International Standardization Organization) 14001 certification, which is the gold standard for environmental compliance. Only the best of the best achieve it. ISO 14001 is the world's most recognized environmental system management framework, and to be certified—as Lexmark has been—takes an enormous amount of effort.

ISO 14001 certification in Lexington is only the most recent addition to a long line of environmental achievements by Lexmark. Almost immediately after the company's inception in 1991, Lexmark initiated a novel and still-creative program for recycling used printer cartridges. Over the past 14 years this program has redirected millions of pounds of cartridges away from landfills and to recycling facilities. And these are not just any recycling facilities, but workshops that employ physically challenged adults to disassemble the cartridges for recycling in a safe environment.

Lexmark is exporting not only great products, but also its environmental ethic. Lexmark's site at Orleans, France, became one of the first companies in Europe to receive ISO 14001 certification. Lexmark Philippines has received national recognition there, not just for the company's commitment to environmental responsibility in every aspect of product design, manufacture, distribution, and use, but for efforts to preserve vital ecosystems as well.

Even more recently, Lexmark sites in Rosyth, Scotland; Boulder, Colorado; Juarez, Mexico; Chihuahua, Mexico; and Cebu, Philippines have met all the requirements to achieve ISO 14001.

I am sure my colleagues would agree that for a company to combine world-class products with a superior commitment to the environment and worker health and safety represents exactly what we hope American industry will do around the world.

Lexmark's participation as a charter member in the United States Environmental Protection Agency's EnergyStar program, its receipt of the Kentucky Governor's Environmental Excellence Award for Industrial Environmental Leadership, and its leadership in everything from "The Reforest the Bluegrass Program" in Lexington to Lexmark's Rainforest Project, which protects the indigenous peoples, plants, and animals of the rainforest, all reflect the unsurpassed commitment to environmental protection that defines the company.

The Lexmark Environmental Program has committed the company to three areas of concentration: the design of its products and services, its management of resources, and the commitment to being a responsible neighbor and employer. If the various awards Lexmark has received are any indication, the company certainly seems to be living up to its mission.

Mr. Speaker, you can see why I am so proud of my constituents at Lexmark. I ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to recognize the many outstanding accomplishments of Lexmark's employees recently and over the history of the company.

STATEMENT ON WAR IN IRAQ

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, this weekend thousands of Americans will congregate on the National Mall and in cities all across this country to protest the Bush Administration's elective war in Iraq. By raising their voices en masse, they hope to send a message to President Bush that he and his Administration, thus far, has been unwilling to hear: the American people don't support this war.

The war was always predicated on the false premise that Iraq was in possession of weapons of mass destruction. This Congress was negligent in not demanding more proof of the President and then refusing to hold him accountable for his exaggerated and unfounded claims.

His war strategy was equally flawed. He has failed to provide the resources our men and women in uniform need to be successful, and American lives have been lost as a result. In 2002 and 2003, Army Chief of Staff General Shinseki warned that not enough boots on the ground would lead to a power vacuum that our enemies would exploit. Tragically, his premonitions have been born out.

To date, approximately 1,900 brave Americans have been killed in Iraq, and there appears to be no immediate end to the quagmire in Iraq.

The American people are rightly asking whether we are any closer to a stable and democratic Iraq today than when the President declared "Mission Accomplished." If experience has taught us anything, it is that democracy cannot be forced upon a nation by gun point. Yet, military force seems to be Bush's preferable strategy.

A recent GAO report indicates that the Defense Department has no ability to account for billions of Federal dollars expended on the war in Iraq, and there are reports of widespread corruption within the Iraqi government. Iraq's own Finance Minister Ali Allawi admitted, "Huge amounts of money have disappeared. In return, we got nothing but scraps of metal."

Meanwhile, Congress continues to debate how the Federal Government will afford the recovery effort from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Some of my Republican colleagues have suggested that we cut spending on domestic programs for health care, education and transportation. The American people, by and large, reject this approach. A recent CNN/USA Today/Gallup poll revealed that a full 54 percent of the respondents felt that the relief effort should be financed by cutting funding for the war. Only 6 percent felt Congress should cut domestic spending.

In the debate over guns and butter, the American people have spoken clearly. Now all we need is a President that is willing to carry out the will of the people.

RECOGNIZING MICHAEL DAVID HERRING FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Michael David Herring, son of Mary Kay and Leon Herring of Saint Joseph, Missouri. Michael is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 31, and by earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout. Michael will receive his Eagle Award on October 2, 2005 at Saint Francis Xavier Parish Center.

Michael has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the 11 years Michael has been involved with Scouting, he has earned numerous merit badges, honors, and leadership positions. Michael has served his troop as Assistant Patrol Leader, Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Senior Patrol Leader, Quartermaster, and Troop Guide. Michael holds the rank of Tom Tom Beater in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say, and participated in Junior Leadership Training. In addition to these honors, Michael earned the Arrow of Light Award, Pope Pius XII Unit Award, and the Ad Altari Dei and Parvuli Dei religious awards. During his 11 years in the scouts, Brandon attended Camp Geiger for six summers.

For his Eagle Scout project, Michael planted five red sunset maple trees at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church. Once fully grown, the trees will separate the parking lot from the playground.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Michael David Herring for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

COMMEMORATING THE APPLING COUNTY GIRLS MIDGET ALL-STAR SOFTBALL TEAM

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I wish to commemorate the Appling County Girls Midget All-Star Softball Team on winning the Georgia State Championship.

July 24, 2005 was a day of victory for the Appling County Girls Midget All-Star Softball Team. They won the Georgia State Championship 6 to 3 over Jeff Davis County. These 11–12-year-old girls have worked tremendously hard to have an undefeated season and win the state championship. Each team member deserves to be commended on their team work and good sportsmanship.

The coaches of this Midget All-Star team have spent endless hours working with this talented group of young women. The members of the winning team are Laci Bass, Brianna Black, Hannah Brazzell, Rebecca Carter, Courtney Clements, Christian Collins, Taylor Dominey, Candyce Eason, Tori Hall,

Brooke Nail, Jennifer Norris, Hope Patton, Jami Scarborough, and Brooke Sikes. Coaches are: Arthur McCall, Donald Rouse, and Brian Brazzell.

TRIBUTE TO ANDREA LEIDERMAN

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Andrea Leiderman, an extraordinary resident of the 14th Congressional District who was taken from us at the age of 46 on Sunday, September 11, 2005.

Andrea Leiderman graduated from Gunn High School and Vassar College, and went on to earn two master degrees from the University of California at Berkeley. She was a dedicated community activist and a committed public servant. She worked to serve others from the age of 10, when she started a childcare group in her parents' living room, to her work in public and government relations for Kaiser Permanente.

Andrea Leiderman served her community as a trustee of the Foothill-DeAnza Community College District, and served on the boards of the Mission City Community Fund, San Jose Chamber of Commerce Local Issues Advocacy Committee and the College of San Mateo President's Council on Advancement. She served as chair of the Working Council of the Silicon Valley Leadership Group and as a member of the Santa Clara County Board of Education.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our deepest sympathy to Hayes Anderson, Andrea's loving husband, Drs. Herb and Gloria Leiderman, Andrea's distinguished parents, to her brother and sisters, and to all those who had the privilege of knowing Andrea. She will be missed and never forgotten.

10TH ANNIVERSARY OF AGRICULTURE IMPROVEMENTS THROUGH BIOTECHNOLOGY IN THE U.S.

HON. COLLIN C. PETERSON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, this year marks the 10th anniversary of the commercialization and planting of crops improved through biotechnology. This year also marks the one-billionth acre of biotech enhanced crops planted on American soil. Since their introduction to American agriculture, biotech crops have provided many benefits to the American people, including less soil erosion, less fuel emissions and reduced need for chemical inputs. Crop biotechnology has also provided tremendous benefits to America's farmers by reducing the cost of production and increasing yields, resulting in increased net farm income by \$1.9 billion.

In my home State of Minnesota, biotech crops have had a significant impact on corn and soybean production. According to a USDA National Agriculture Statistics Service Report published in June of this year, 66 percent of

all corn planted in Minnesota was of a biotech variety. The same report noted that 83 percent of all soybeans planted in Minnesota were of a biotech variety. In 2003, the most recent overall statistics for biotech crops in Minnesota, the planting of biotech crops led to an increase of 525 million pounds of farm commodity output. At the same time, Minnesota farmers reduced pesticide use by 6.5 million pounds and earned an additional \$176 million in profits.

There are several Minnesota companies in attendance today whose research has contributed to the successes of farm biotechnology. Newport Laboratories works with veterinarians to fight disease and protect livestock health through customized biotech treatments. CROPLAN Genetics, a subsidiary of the Land-O-Lakes company, focuses on individual farmers and meeting their specific genetic needs with customized seed. ANDX, Inc. develops tests which diagnose and predict livestock diseases. Together these companies represent the many achievements in the field of biotechnology which benefit farmers across the Nation.

For the last decade, biotechnology has changed the face of American agriculture. New advances in biotechnology continue to improve the lives of American farmers, and will continue to shape agriculture into the future. I'm happy to participate in the Agriculture Biotechnology Exhibition, and I look forward to the continuing benefits and innovations of agriculture biotechnology.

MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY COMPETITIVENESS ACT 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 21, 2005

Mr. COSTELLO. Madam Chairman, I rise today in opposition to the rule for H.R. 250, the Manufacturing Technology Competitiveness Act of 2005. We had an opportunity today to address key manufacturing competitiveness and innovation issues, but instead the bill before us is simply a narrow reauthorization bill that eliminates funding for the Advanced Technology Program, ATP. Democrats tried to broaden this narrow manufacturing bill by bringing eight manufacturing amendments to the Rules Committee. Unfortunately, the Republican-crafted rule blocks the four of the eight Democratic amendments. I am disappointed that this bill does so little to achieve its stated goal of addressing the long term problems facing our Nation's manufacturers.

Congress must confront that we are in a manufacturing crisis. The U.S. manufacturing sector is facing a crisis—since 2001 we have lost 2.8 million manufacturing jobs. In the first three months of this year, we have lost another 24,000 manufacturing jobs. I am very concerned about the issue of off-shoring of our professional manufacturing jobs. We have to get a handle on this problem and we need sufficient and accurate data to make sound policy decisions. Once we understand the problem, we can then develop policies to address it. An effective way to do that is, in fact, to mandate a study to report back to the Congress within a nine-month period so that we,

in fact, can take a look at the number of jobs that have been lost and the ramifications as well as the other areas that the Secretary would be looking at. Given the crisis facing our manufacturing sector, I have asked Congress to work with the administration to address the issue of off-shoring, by studying its effects and implications. To date, Congress still does not have the data to do an analysis of off-shoring trends. If we are serious about making America more competitive and maintaining high-skilled jobs in the U.S., we first have to understand the real impact of job outsourcing. Manufacturing plays a crucial role in the growth and health of the U.S. economy. It is an industry that helped build the great country we have today and we need to work together to get a handle on this serious problem facing our manufacturing base.

RECOGNIZING BRANDON MICHAEL LAMBERT BECK FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Brandon Michael Lambert Beck, son of Kerry and Marilyn Beck of Saint Joseph, Missouri. Brandon is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 31, and by earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout. Brandon will receive his Eagle Award on October 2, 2005 at Saint Francis Xavier Parish Center.

Brandon has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the twelve years Brandon has been involved with Scouting, he has earned numerous merit badges, honors, and leadership positions. Brandon has served his troop as Assistant Patrol Leader, Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Senior Patrol Leader, Historian, and Troop Guide. Brandon holds the rank of Tom Tom Beater in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say, and participated in Junior Leader Training. Brandon has earned awards for snorkeling and marksmanship, as well as the Ad Altari Dei and Parvuli Dei religious awards. During his twelve years in the scouts, Brandon attended Camp Geiger for seven summers.

For his Eagle Scout project, Brandon constructed and installed shelves in the basement of the rectory of Saint Francis Xavier Church.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Brandon Michael Lambert Beck for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING GUEST CHAPLAIN REVEREND ANTHONY MARCIANO

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to recognize this morning's guest chaplain, Reverend Anthony Marciano. Reverend Marciano

is the Executive Director of the Charlotte Rescue Mission in Charlotte, North Carolina. The Rescue Mission ministers to people in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg area who struggle with poverty, homelessness, and drug addiction. The Mission's five fold strategy aims to meet the spiritual, physical, emotional, social, and vocational needs of these folks, in a way that demonstrates God's love. Under Reverend Marciano's direction, the Mission has seen truly inspiring success rates among its clients, and I'm proud to represent people like Tony in Congress.

Rev. Marciano is a graduate of The Salvation Army's seminary. Before moving to Charlotte, he founded a shelter in New Jersey to address homelessness and addiction. Tony and his wife Dorothy have three kids, and they live in Charlotte, North Carolina with their dog, Rocky.

Founded in 1938, the Charlotte Rescue Mission continues to make a positive impact on our city. I applaud Rev. Marciano for his dedication and Christian witness—and I'm honored to welcome him to the House Floor this morning.

HONORING THE MANUFACTURED HOUSING INDUSTRY OF ARIZONA

HON. RICK RENZI

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker I rise today to honor the Manufactured Housing Industry of Arizona for its work to assist Native American Veterans by donating the materials for the Lori Pietsewa Veteran's Center in Arizona that was recently featured on the popular ABC TV show, "Extreme Makeover—Home Edition" seen by 20 million viewers on May 22, 2005.

The Center is dedicated to the memory of Specialist Lori Pietsewa, a member of the Hopi Tribe and a native of Tuba City, Arizona. She is believed to be the first female Native American soldier killed during wartime while serving in the United States Army.

I would like to thank Cavco Homes for its generous donation of the Veteran's Center. It took approximately 400 employees from Cavco's Litchfield, Arizona plant working around the clock for four days to complete the building. The home has several large open areas for displays and meetings, a large kitchen and dining room, and two offices or conference rooms. The house also contains a handicap-accessible bathroom, special lighting throughout the interior spaces, and a stucco exterior that fits in with the Santa Fe style architecture so prevalent in the Southwest.

I would also like to recognize the Manufactured Housing Industry of Arizona for working with Extreme Makeover—Home Edition for almost a year to help make this project a reality. The Manufactured Housing Industry of Arizona provides thousands of quality, affordable homes each year to Arizona residents and provides jobs for over 6,500 Arizona citizens in approximately 2,600 industry related businesses in Arizona.

The Pietsewa Veteran's Center will serve as a constant reminder of the courage and dedicated service of our Native American Veterans and will provide them with a special place that they can "call their own."

Finally, I would like to commend all of the Native American Veterans—both past and present for their dedicated service to our country.

Therefore, I am pleased to submit these remarks to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD in honor of the Native American Veterans who served our country with distinction for decades; in appreciation to Cavco Homes for their generous donation of the Pietsewa Veterans Center which was built by 400 dedicated employees at their Arizona Litchfield Plant; and in recognition of the Manufactured Housing Industry of Arizona (MHIAZ) and ABC TV's Extreme Makeover—Home Edition who helped make this veteran's center a reality.

CONGRATULATING ALBERT TEGLIA ON HIS RECEIPT OF THE JEFFERSON AWARD

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Albert Teglia on his recent receipt of the Jefferson Award and to thank him for his many contributions to his community. The Jefferson Award is given to individuals for their extraordinary work in their community. Mr. Teglia, who is known simply as "Al" to his friends, received this prestigious recognition for his work with the Adopt-a-Family program and as director of the San Mateo County Children's Fund. I congratulate him on receiving this award, and I am proud that he resides in my Congressional district.

Al's work with the Adopt-a-Family program, an organization that he founded, arose after he recognized that many of the families receiving donations during the holiday had needs that lasted all year. As a result, Al suggested that volunteer families sponsor a needy family for an entire year by providing food as well as other needs including, clothing, school supplies, toys, and other necessary items. Because Al believes that directly connecting volunteers and families helps guide assistance to where it is needed most, volunteer families personally drop off the items of assistance, which creates a personal relationship between donor and recipient.

When Mr. Teglia became the director of San Mateo County's Children's Fund in 2000, he brought Adopt-a-Family under its umbrella. Since then, Al has developed a dozen programs that provide needy families with clothing, computers, school supplies, and furniture. Additionally, these programs make available vocational job training, jobs for youth, dental and orthodontic care, and education funds. Al is able to run this important program because of the generous donations and selfless volunteer efforts of many on the Peninsula.

Mr. Speaker, much insight about this extraordinary person can be gleaned by his answer to the question "Who are your heroes?" He lists five historical figures: Abraham Lincoln, George Washington, Harry Truman, Eleanor Roosevelt, and Perry Como. Like his own personal heroes, Al Teglia has been a hero to many. His program reaches beyond just the immediate results because his programs perpetually help the needy. Those who have received assistance from Adopt-a-Family

and the Children's Fund, have commented that they plan to give back to the community just as the community gave to them. Not only has Mr. Teglia's work fed and clothed many in need, but also it has inspired people to give to and uplift those who surround them in their communities. Since its beginning in 1997, the Adopt-a-Family program has helped more than 200 families. In the wake of the Hurricane Katrina disaster, Mr. Teglia reminds all Americans that they can also be heroes and help the victims of Hurricane Katrina as well as the poor in their own backyard. Mr. Teglia remarked, "We need to take care of our home if we are going to set an example for the world".

Al Teglia has diligently served the Daly City community for over 30 years as mayor, councilman, and trustee in the Jefferson Union High School District. He also helped to get BART (Bay Area Rapid Transit) to Daly City when he served on the Board of Directors of Samtrans. Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in thanking Al for his contributions to the community. His friends and colleagues have praised him for his selfless acts of service, and I hope the acknowledgement of this award will inspire others to devote more of their time to helping those in need.

HONORING THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ON THEIR 100TH YEAR OF CONTINUED SERVICE TO THE FLUSHING COMMUNITY

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the First Presbyterian Church of Flushing, New York. This year marks the church's 100th anniversary and during the past century its members have dedicated themselves to serving God and our community.

The First Presbyterian Church was founded in 1904 when Rev. Benjamin Parlman, unable to find any existing Presbyterian churches in Flushing, built a new church and held its first worship service on January 22, 1905. In the past hundred years, the church has grown and adapted, but it has never once strayed from its commitment to serving our community.

When hardships struck our neighbors, the First Presbyterian Church was there to ease their troubles and offer support in any way possible. During the Great Depression, with a membership of over 425, then Reverend Charles Woodbridge organized employment committees to aid those who lost their jobs. Immediately following the stock market crash of 1929, Rev. Woodbridge helped to establish a relief ministry to support those victimized by the nation's economic plight. When the strain and terror of war struck the Nation during the first and second World Wars, the church continued to console and support its members. Since then, the church has grown in numbers and expanded in size, adding new programs for youth and adults and erecting more facilities for education and worship.

In 1974 a Women's Fellowship was started and not long after Ms. Irene Galati became the first woman elder to be ordained at the

church. Furthermore, a Korean church was begun to better serve the growing Korean population of the area. A free counseling center was created in 1980, along with a clothing exchange program, both of which continue to serve the community today. More recently, current pastor Rev. Dr. John Smucker has implemented new programs such as the English Language center, which helps teach English to those in need, and the Murray Hill Neighborhood Association, which is a non-profit group dedicated to raising funds for teaching English as a second language, the food pantry, free counseling services, after school programs and the Home Care Fund.

Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of its 100th year of service to the community of Flushing, I ask that the whole House join me in congratulating this outstanding house of worship and a strong pillar in our community for all that it has done thus far, and in wishing the church, its members and clergy many more years of success and good fortune.

IN HONOR OF GENERAL RICHARD MYERS, CHAIRMAN, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me take this means to pay tribute to retiring General Richard Myers. General Myers became Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff on October 1, 2001. Appointed to the position by President George W. Bush, as Chairman, General Myers serves as the principal military advisor to the President, the Secretary of Defense, and the National Security Council.

Born in Kansas City, Missouri, General Myers is a graduate of the Kansas State University, where he entered the Reserve Officer Training Corps program, and Auburn University where he earned an MBA. He entered the United States Air Force in 1965, beginning a distinguished career of service, including logging more than 4,100 flying hours, of which 600 were combat hours in the F-4, and operational and leadership positions in a variety of Air Force and Joint assignments.

General Myers' first major command came in November 1993, when he became head of U.S. Forces in Japan and the Fifth Air Force at the Yokota Air Force Base. This assignment was followed by service as Assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; Commander, Pacific Air Forces, Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii; Department of Defense manager, space transportation system contingency support at Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado; Commander, Air Force Space Command; and Commander in Chief, North American Aerospace Defense Command and U.S. Space Command. Prior to becoming Chairman, he served as Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, a duty in which he served as Chairman of the Joint Requirements Oversight Council, Vice Chairman of the Defense Acquisition Board, and as a member of the National Security Council Deputies Committee and the Nuclear Weapons Council.

Mr. Speaker, the American people have been fortunate to have General Myers serving as the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff for

the past four years. His fine character and dedication to service have resulted in a career of which he, his wife Mary Jo, and his three children can be proud. I know my fellow Members of the House of Representatives will join me in thanking him for his commitment to his country and in wishing him all the best in the years ahead.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF SALLY K. GRISWOLD

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute and recognition of Sally Griswold, as she is honored by the Board of Directors of the Vocational Guidance Services, VGS, with the Herbert E. Strawbridge Lifetime Achievement Award. The award recognizes an individual's outstanding work on behalf of VGS services that support individuals with disabilities or societal disadvantages.

Mrs. Griswold has been a passionate and unwavering advocate for the VGS since the 1950s. Her husband, the late Bruce Griswold, was recovering from polio, and turned to the VGS for rehabilitation services. Mrs. Griswold's husband and her son, James Griswold, served as Chairs of VGS's Board of Directors.

Mrs. Griswold's volunteer tenure with the VGS reflects involvement and leadership within all areas of the organization, from fund raising campaigns to program expansion. In 2004, VGS placed more than one thousand individuals back into the workforce. Three hundred and sixty of those individuals were people with significant disabilities, and 200 were at-risk youth or adults making the transition from welfare to work.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in tribute and recognition of Mrs. Sally K. Griswold, recipient of the 2005 Herbert E. Strawbridge Lifetime Achievement Award. This honor reflects Mrs. Griswold's lifelong commitment and support of Cleveland's Vocational Guidance Services. Mrs. Griswold's spirit of volunteerism and deep sense of service to others continues to raise the lives and spirits of countless individuals into the light of hope and possibility, thereby uplifting our entire community.

PREPARATION FOR HURRICANE RITA

HON. MICHAEL T. McCAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. McCAUL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, last week, I visited the Katrina relief efforts in my district, and Vice President CHENEY and I met with the Texas Emergency Management Agency. They did an outstanding job in the Katrina relief effort, but now we are faced with another hurricane—Hurricane Rita.

As I speak to you now, Rita, a category 5 hurricane, is bearing down on the coast of Texas and is projected to hit near Galveston. Now more than ever, this kind of leadership is needed for our communities in Texas.

Along with the mandatory evacuations in the Gulf Coastal region, there currently exists a voluntary evacuation in the Greater Houston area for flood plains, and neighborhoods near main bayous. Although these evacuation orders are voluntary, the Federal Emergency Management Agency strongly suggests that in the event of a hurricane all evacuation orders must be honored to prevent needless loss of life.

If we work together, we can save lives. This is our duty as friends, as neighbors and as Americans.

HONORING THE LIFE OF WILLIAM COLLINS

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, New Mexico recently lost a respected soldier, admired educator, beloved husband and father and distinguished citizen. William Collins died peacefully at the age of 84 on August 29, 2005, at his home in Albuquerque.

Bill was born in Glasgow, Scotland, on November 14, 1920, but at a young age moved with his mother and sister to Boston, Massachusetts. It was there that his father, Robert Collins, was recuperating at a hospital from wounds suffered at the Battle of Somme in World War I.

Growing up in East Boston, Bill excelled in baseball and football and attended Kents Hill Academy in Maine on a baseball scholarship. A later baseball scholarship led Bill to the University of Southern California, and after his first year, Massachusetts U.S. Senator Henry Cabot Lodge appointed him to the United States Military Academy. At West Point, Bill played on two national championship teams with Glenn Davis and Doc Blanchard while simultaneously playing baseball as a feared left-handed pull hitter. Always a prankster who received numerous demerits, Bill would later claim to have held the all-time West Point record for "walking the yard" as punishment for his amusing deeds.

The United States' involvement in World War II resulted in a 3-year, early graduation for Bill's West Point class. Upon graduation in 1945, he married Doris Leary in the Cadet Chapel. A lovely lady, Doris would be Bill's wife and best friend for 60 years, a union blessed with two sons and grandchildren. Bill then joined the 11th Airborne Division as a paratrooper. He fought for his country in the Philippines and was preparing to parachute into Japan as a Pathfinder when the war ended.

Serving as a paratrooper with the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, Bill was a Company Commander in the 28th Infantry Division in Germany and an R.O.T.C. instructor at the University of Rhode Island. He was then transferred to the U.S. Army Ordnance Corp and served in Redstone Arsenal in Alabama and in Korea. Following his tour of duty in Korea, Bill served as project engineer for the Sidewinder and Redeye missile programs at White Sands Missile Range in southern New Mexico. He subsequently joined the Army's Intelligence Corp and served as a counter intelligence agent in Korea, recruiting, planning and directing intelligence-gathering missions into North

Korea. Bill retired from the Army in 1964 with the rank of Major.

After military retirement, Bill returned to school and earned Masters and Doctorate degrees in Latin American Studies from the University of New Mexico. For the next 30 years, he taught American and Latin American history as well as that of Spain, Portugal and Mexico at Purdue University. His classes were so interesting and filled with such quick wit that the walls of large lecture halls were lined with televisions to accommodate the overflowing attendance. In addition, Bill, who was ambidextrous, amazed his students by his ability to write on the blackboard right-handed and then switch the chalk to his left hand in order to continue writing without blocking the students' view. He received the "Mobil Best Teacher of the Year" award at Purdue 2 years running and then served on the selection committee.

Bill loved Purdue football and was a long-suffering Boston Red Sox fan. When he was a youngster in Boston, he would travel by trolley car to attend games at Fenway Park for 25 cents. He recalled meeting famed Red Sox hurler Cy Young at Fenway and, with his father, meeting Hall of Famer Bobby Doerr when Doerr first came to the Red Sox in 1940. Bill watched every Red Sox game on television from his home in Albuquerque and was thrilled when the team won the 2004 World Series, their first time to do so in 86 years. When Bill passed away, he was wearing his Boston Red Sox wrist watch that he proudly wore for many years; he then fell asleep on the same pillow he had used 60 years before at West Point.

Mr. Speaker, William Collins will be greatly missed by his family and many friends. I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of this fine American.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF JOHN H. JOHNSON

SPEECH OF

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2005

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay homage to John H. Johnson, who left this Earth on August 8, 2005 after a lengthy illness. I again extend my sincerest condolences to his family.

For my colleagues who may not be familiar with his legacy, John H. Johnson was a publishing icon—a true legend—who exemplified the power of faith, perseverance and entrepreneurial spirit. He was an extraordinary businessman whose life was like a giant tree that had grown from a small seed—one step and one season at a time.

His journey began on January 19, 1918, when he was born in Arkansas City, Arkansas. Although his father died in a sawmill accident when John was only eight years old, his mother worked diligently to move her family to Chicago and to give them a better life.

As a result of his mother's sacrifice and his unwavering faith, his dreams knew no boundaries. Consequently, in 1936 during the era of Jim Crow, with the mere vision of formulating a national magazine geared toward the em-

powerment of African-Americans and a \$500 loan from his mother, Johnson did what many would deem impossible. He formed the now successful Johnson Publishing Company, Inc., which later published two of the nation's top African-American magazines, *Ebony* and *Jet*. Not only have these magazines served as the beginning of prosperous careers for young journalists, but they also serve to highlight positive accomplishments and achievements in the African-American community often overlooked in the mainstream media.

For Archbishop Desmond Tutu of South Africa, *Ebony* was the light that inspired him through the stormy days of apartheid. To *Newsweek's* contributing editor, Mr. Ellis Cose, the Chicago skyscraper that houses Mr. Johnson's company symbolizes just how high black entrepreneurship can reach. And for Members of the Congressional Black Caucus, both *Jet* and *Ebony* help us better serve our constituents by providing invaluable information on how our work in Washington affects their lives.

In addition to his publishing empire, John Johnson's phenomenal entrepreneurial skills coupled with his tenacity led him to successfully venture into cosmetics, television production, as well as the fashion industry. Needless to say, Mr. Johnson realized almost 70 years ago, that entrepreneurship can provide a path to achievement and wealth for Americans willing to invest in their own vision and abilities.

Besides his \$500 million enterprise, some of his more well-known accolades include, appearing as the first African-American on the *Forbes* list of the 400 wealthiest Americans in 1982, receiving the Black Journalists' Lifetime Award in 1987 and the Wall Street Journal/Dow Jones Entrepreneurial Excellence Award in 1993, as well as the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Clinton in 1996, the highest honor the nation can bestow on a citizen.

Furthermore, in 2003, the John H. Johnson School of Communications was established in his honor, while the John H. Johnson Delta Cultural and Entrepreneurial Learning Center in Arkansas City was dedicated to him in 2005. These are fitting honors to a man who dedicated his life to breaking barriers and to being a hallmark of excellence.

Mr. Speaker, again it is both an honor and a privilege to stand before you to give tribute to a man who dedicated his life's work to ensuring that African-Americans were uplifted. As a result he helped to uplift our nation.

I would like to close with a quote from his autobiography, *Succeeding Against the Odds*, "I believe that the only failure is failing to try . . . and if my life has meaning . . . it is because millions of Americans, Black and White, have proved through me that the Dream is still alive and well and working in America."

Mr. Speaker, John Johnson's life encapsulated the American dream—his works while on Earth ensure that the Dream remains an attainable reality. May he rest in peace.

ROFEH INTERNATIONAL HONORS
PETER BLACK AND RAHMIN KODSI

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, for years I have taken the opportunity to share

through the pages of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the important work done by a very significant institution—ROFEH International—New England Chassidic Center.

This important organization, led by Grand Rabbi Levi Y. Horowitz, does extremely important and creative work in the medical field. Rabbi Horowitz is himself a very distinguished expert in the field of medical ethics, and demonstrates beyond any argument that an appreciation of the advantages of modern medicine and a deep commitment to one of the world's great religious traditions is not only fully compatible but can be mutually reinforcing.

This organization has done a great deal to help people in need of medical treatment and has done much to make sure that the superb medical facilities of the Greater Boston Area are available to people worldwide.

This year at the Annual Dinner on November 20, ROFEH International-New England Chassidic Center will honor two very eminent men who have distinguished themselves in support of this important work.

Dr. Peter Black, Neurosurgeon-in-Chief at Brigham and Women's Hospital, receives the "ROFEH International Distinguished Service Award." Rahmin Kodsi, President of Clement Textile Company in Boston, is the recipient of the "Man of the Year" award.

Mr. Speaker, the sort of work that ROFEH International-New England Chassidic Center does in the medical field is highly worthy of emulation and I am taking advantage of this opportunity to ask that the drafts of biographies of these two extremely qualified honorees be made a part of this RECORD.

PETER M. BLACK, M.D., PH.D.

Dr. Peter Black has devoted most of his professional life to understanding and treating patients of all ages with brain tumors and/or epilepsy. He has traveled widely in developing countries to teach techniques and concepts. In Boston, he has developed a busy neurosurgical practice, believing that compassion, good judgment, and technical excellence must go hand in hand.

Dr. Black is a graduate of Harvard College and McGill Medical School, with neurosurgical residency at the Massachusetts General Hospital and a staff position there. In 1987, he became Franc D. Ingraham Professor of Neurosurgery at Harvard Medical School, Chairman, Departments of Neurosurgery at Brigham and Women's Hospital and Children's Hospital, Neurosurgeon-in-Chief at Brigham & Women's Hospital, and Chief of Neurosurgical Oncology at Dana-Farber Cancer Center, positions he has continued to hold since then.

He has published extensively in tumor and epilepsy research with over 350 peer-reviewed papers and ten books on these topics. His clinical work emphasizes cutting edge technology for treating tumors of all types; he is a leader in image-guided minimally invasive surgery, brain mapping, and intraoperative imaging for tumors.

Dr. Black is the chairman of the editorial board of Neurosurgery and sits on several other editorial boards of scientific journals. He is a frequent invited speaker at national and international conferences. Among his awards are the Mayfield, ASEAN and Botterell awards, the Distinguished Service award for the Joint Section on Tumors, the Distinguished Leadership in Neuroscience award for the Dana Alliance for Brain Initiatives, and the Pioneer Award from the Children's Brain Tumor

Foundation, and the Thomson Compassionate Scholar award from the Brigham and Women's Hospital.

Dr. Peter Black and Katharine his wife of 38 years, have five children: Winifred, Peter Thomas, Elizabeth, Katharine, and Christopher, who live and work around the world.

MR. RAHMIN KODSI

Born in Cairo, Egypt in 1929, Rahmin Kodosi was only 16 years old when his father passed away. As the only son who suddenly needed to support his mother and two sisters, Rahmin was forced to drop out of school to assume his late father's textile business.

In 1960, Rahmin married Ginette, and they are now the proud parents of three daughters: Louna Levana, Lili Leah and Joyce Simcha.

During the Six Day War, the Egyptian government imprisoned and confiscated the property of successful Jews, accusing them of involvement with the Israeli government. As a prominent Egyptian Jew, Rahmin suffered that fate as well, though he was fortunate (relatively) enough to only spend 3 weeks in prison. He was subsequently relocated to Naples, and his family followed three months later. The Kodosi family lived briefly in Paris and then came to Boston in 1968.

In Boston, Rahmin opened his first textile business—Clement Textile—in 1971. He has contributed significantly to the Boston Jewish landscape as well as to the business world. He sits on the board of directors of the Sephardic Community of Greater Boston, and he participates in many other philanthropic projects.

Today, Rahmin and Ginette live in Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts, where they share many simchas with their daughters,

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 250, THE MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY COMPETITIVENESS ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 21, 2005

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to oppose the rule to provide for consideration of H.R. 250, the Manufacturing Technology Competitiveness Act. The rule did not make in order an amendment that I submitted which would have elevated the advisory committee, present now and codified by H.R. 250, to a Presidential Council on Manufacturing. The amendment would have broadened the diversity of the Council and provided much needed accountability to their strategic role.

If our manufacturing industry and our manufacturing jobs are truly as important as much rhetoric suggests, we owe it to Americans in the industry to create a council that has the ear of our President.

As many of us know, the Council on Manufacturing has been in existence since last year and is now solely comprised of industry representatives. My amendment would broaden the diversity of those that sit on the panel to include labor, research, and academia, bringing a much needed voice to individuals adversely affected by and who have expertise in the current state of manufacturing.

Furthermore, under my amendment, the President's Manufacturing Council would be

directed to develop a National Manufacturing Strategy with clear issues to consider and specific reports to be submitted to Congress.

As it stands currently, the Advisory Council is not carrying out its responsibilities as envisioned by H.R. 250, which assigns responsibilities to the Council to review federal manufacturing R&D and to review the actions of the Interagency Working Group on Manufacturing R&D. The Council has accomplished neither of these stated goals.

Perhaps most astonishing, according to the Commerce Department staff, the Council does not have an agenda for the coming year, nor were they certain that such an agenda would even be developed.

The National Council for Advanced Manufacturing reported on the Bush Manufacturing Initiative suggesting that the Council have a more expansive role, that they have a strong Congressional mandate, and that the committee be chaired by the Secretary of Commerce.

My colleagues, I believe it is clear that the Council as it stands now does not meet these recommendations.

We have seen drastic changes in manufacturing jobs in this country, transfer of entire operations overseas, and communities deeply affected by these changes.

While there is much disagreement in this body about how to tackle the problems affiliated with the changing climate of our workforce, I seldom hear disagreement that there is an ongoing change in the U.S. manufacturing sector.

Unfortunately, this rule will not allow us to consider the design of the Council. I urge a 'no' vote on the rule so that we may have the opportunity to proactively address the problems of the manufacturing industry and to fulfill a promise to working Americans in the sector that we value their industry and their contribution to our nation.

We will not sit idly by while our neighbors lose their jobs and their way of life.

Vote no so that we may task this Council with a strong mandate and a clear role.

IN RECOGNITION OF ANDRE LOUIS AND THE "RIDE FOR THE AGES"

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Andre Louis, a selfless and inspirational individual who completed his "Ride for the Ages" on September 11, 2005.

On August 10, Mr. Louis began a 3,300 mile journey by bicycle across the United States in an effort to raise awareness of the importance of maintaining physical health for senior citizens. Andre, the Psychiatric Services Coordinator at the Margaret Tietz Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Jamaica, New York, was inspired by his experiences working with aging individuals suffering from serious health problems.

On his way from San Francisco to Jamaica, Andre, who himself is nearing retirement age, stopped at various American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging facilities to meet with and inspire staff members and patients alike. Accompanied by family members

along the way, Andre has dedicated the "Ride for the Ages" to his daughter, Michele, who survived leukemia as a result of a bone marrow transplant from her brother Jean-Daniel.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I commend Andre Louis for his altruism and dedication to the health of our seniors. He is truly a determined individual and an inspiration to us all. I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to please join me in honoring Andre Louis for his extraordinary undertaking and wishing him many more years of success.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT L. GOLDICH

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I wish to recognize the outstanding service of Robert L. Goldich, a Specialist in National Defense with the Foreign Affairs, Defense, and Trade Division of the Congressional Research Service. Mr. Goldich is retiring after 33 years at CRS. During this time, he has provided Members of Congress with perspective and analysis on a broad range of topics in military manpower and personnel policy, military history, Department of Defense organization, prisoner of war (POW) and missing in action (MIA) issues, and major aspects of overall U.S. defense policy.

During his career, Mr. Goldich excelled at working with Members of Congress and congressional staff on many issues. He is an expert on such issues as military retirement, military compensation and benefits, officer personnel management, military education and training; as well as the draft and all-volunteer force, military reserve components and the National Guard, and U.S. defense organization and management including the Goldwater-Nichols Act and the Reserve Officer Personnel Management Act. He received a CRS commendation for his service to Congress in 1987, and in 1991 he received a CRS meritorious award for his service to Congress during the Persian Gulf War. He is the second youngest person ever to graduate from the National War College.

Mr. Goldich also served twice as head of CRS's Military Manpower, Budget and Policy Management Section and was responsible for providing to Congress analytical capability on a variety of defense issues associated with the Department of Defense's budget and policy priorities. He received many accolades as a supervisor and lead with dedication, analytical skill, clear thinking, and fair-minded approach in working with members of the Section. In addition to his work for Congress, Mr. Goldich's outside professional activities are impressive. He was invited to participate in high level conferences, writing book reviews for the Army Center of Military History, and having long-time participatory memberships to the Inter-Agency Seminar Group and the Inter-University Seminar on Armed Forces and Society.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in thanking Mr. Goldich for his many years of service and his many contributions to congressional deliberations on defense related issues. I wish him and his family all the best in the days ahead.

CBC ANNUAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE 2005, HEALTHCARE FORUM

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, the following is a copy of a speech given by me for insertion into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Thank you for inviting me to the CBC Annual Meeting. I am honored to be here.

I want to impress on you today that addressing our national health crisis is well within our reach. In fact, there is only one truly sustainable solution and that's universal, single payer, not for profit health care.

We have all heard the statistics. Almost 46 million are uninsured. Only 5 percent of them are unemployed. 8.4 million children were uninsured in 2003. Over a third of the poor and more than a quarter of the near-poor lack coverage.

What does that mean for them? They are less healthy. They don't get adequate preventative care. For example, uninsured children are 70 percent more likely than insured children not to receive medical care for common conditions like ear infections. And an uninsured person has a 25 percent higher risk of dying than an insured person. This translates to 18,000 deaths per year in the U.S. that are attributable to lack of insurance coverage.

Being uninsured or even underinsured also takes a huge financial toll. Medical bills are the number one cause of personal bankruptcies. That will affect the ability to buy a home or make other large purchases that help define the American dream.

It's not hard to see why the U.S., when compared to other developed countries, has the lowest indicators of health. We have the lowest life expectancy and the worst continuity of care. We have the highest infant mortality rate and maternal mortality rate.

And yet our per capita health care spending is almost twice the average of developed countries that have universal coverage. That is largely because of gross inefficiency. Private health insurance overhead ranges from 12-30 percent while Medicare's is consistently about 2-3 percent.

In a nutshell, we're already paying for high quality, universal health care—we're just not getting it.

Now we already have a system that is a model for where we need to go. It's called Medicare. H.R. 676, which I am proud to have developed with my friend and colleague, Mr. CONYERS, would simply expand and improve Medicare. Under this plan, Medicare for All, every person in the country will receive comprehensive health care and every person will pay less. It doesn't cost any more than our nation currently spends on health care. It simply reallocates the money to better uses.

Here's how it works. It would give everyone living in America, including immigrants, a health care card. That card would guarantee coverage at any hospital, any clinic, and any doctor that a patient wants to use. Coverage would also be guaranteed for the entire range of patient's medical needs, from preventative care screening to prescription drugs to dental care to long-term care.

The wasted and excessive funds in our current health care system are so great that under Medicare for All, no patient would ever pay a premium, a deductible, a co-payment, or even see a bill for needed medical care. Cost would no longer be a worry for families or a reason for bankruptcy.

Medicare for All would also address the quality of health care. There are often no standards, or there are different standards for different people. If you're black, or if you're Hispanic, you know that the health care you receive is, too often, not the same as other people receive.

There should be a single standard of care, determined by a group of qualified medical professionals. Under Medicare for All, a new National Board of Universal Quality and Access would be established. The Board would include health care professionals, nurses, representatives of institutional providers of health care, health care advocacy groups, labor unions and citizen patient advocates. This Board is critical because it puts control of health care in the hands of providers and health experts instead of insurance companies and software writers.

The first priority of the Board would be to create a universal, best quality standard of care. This standard would determine appropriate staffing levels and appropriate medical technology. This standard would also cover design and scope of work in the health workplace. So, no matter what a patient looks like or where in the country the patient is treated, the health care standards are the same. Even if you already have health insurance now, the medical care you would receive under Medicare for All would be better.

Finally, Medicare for All would hold health care facilities accountable to the universal, best quality standard of care. Hospitals, clinics and other facilities would no longer be able to keep internal data secret, such as staffing ratios, medication errors, misdiagnoses or infection rates. As it stands, patients cannot compare health care quality data from hospital to hospital. Making that data public would ensure accountability. It would help facilities learn what problems need to be addressed. It would encourage them to do even better to deliver the best patient care possible.

Who supports such a health care system? About two thirds of Americans agree that the federal government should guarantee medical care for Americans. 58 percent of medical students and faculty favor a Medicare for All type of system. Multiple Deans of Medical Schools, the former Editor of the New England Journal of Medicine, about 40 percent of small business owners have all expressed support. The three major auto manufacturers (Ford, GM, and Daimler-Chrysler) in Canada have all publicly endorsed Canada's health system specifically because it lowers their costs so much that it gives them a significant competitive advantage over their U.S. counterparts in Detroit. This is an important point that resonates with lawmakers.

I am excited to report that H.R. 676 now has over 50 cosponsors and the list is growing. It includes rank and file as well as several ranking members with seniority; 15 members of the CBC as well as the Hispanic Caucus, the Progressive Caucus, the New Democrats; members that have cosponsored the bill since it was first introduced in 2003 and members who have heard about the growing movements in their states and have signed on for the first time.

I want to close by saying that I think you'll find that when you talk to people who follow health care policy closely and ask them what they think about H.R. 676 you're highly likely to get the same answer I usually get—Yes, it's the best system out there and would solve many of our health care problems, but it's just not politically feasible. That is not a good enough reason to avoid one of the biggest issues of our time. I usually just smile and tell them this: with health care costs rising faster than inflation

with no end in sight and with the abject failure of managed care to contain those costs; and with the number of uninsured growing steadily; and with American companies losing their competitive edge because they are paying so much more for health care than other developed countries, the opposition cannot prevail much longer. Universal, not for profit single payer health care is not only feasible—it's inevitable.

MARY M. CROSS: A POINT-OF-LIGHT

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, as a result of recent events related to the E-Rate the education community pauses to honor Dr. Mary Cross for her unwavering commitment to the development and implementation of the E-Rate program, which is making the most advanced communications technologies available to children and adults across the nation, regardless of their race, ethnicity, social or economic status. Before the E-Rate program was implemented in 1997, very few American classrooms had the necessary wiring to connect many children and educators to the world of information outside textbooks and small school library collections. As a result community libraries lacked much of this needed infrastructure to serve the needs of but a few patrons at a time.

The role played by Dr. Cross in the early fights to establish the E-Rate was a critical one which established Dr. Mary M. Cross as a Point-of-Light for all Americans.

After Congress passed the Telecommunications Act of 1996, the E-Rate program started to help schools and libraries install and pay for advanced telecommunications resources, giving greatest priority for funding to economically disadvantaged schools. As a result of persistent advocacy and commitment over its 8-year life, the program has provided over \$2 billion annually to districts. This has meant accelerating the pace at which technological innovations have entered America's classrooms, a pace that was unimaginable before the E-Rate program.

Unfortunately, some corporate giants tried to kill the E-Rate program by trying to cut services. In addition, many education groups were not in total agreement about key issues, which resulted in the E-Rate wars. We appreciate Dr. Cross's work at the American Federation of Teachers, as she fought vigorously in establishing and implementing this vital program by working tirelessly with her education group colleagues, the administration, the Congress, and friendly business interests.

We are equally thankful for her responsiveness by giving updates at several Education Braintrust meetings over the years. Her work assured that African American leadership and the community at-large were aware of and engaged in the advocacy needed to launch this program.

Mary Cross was born and raised in my hometown of Memphis, TN during the overt and brutal era of legal segregation in America. By tackling racial and gender barriers, she was part of the third class of women ever admitted to Lincoln University (PA) and later

went on to graduate school at Princeton University. She became the first African American woman to earn a Ph.D. in psychology from Princeton in 1976, where she studied the psychology of learning. Dr. Cross now serves in the AFT's Human Rights and Community Relations Department where she does research, member education, advocacy, and coalition-building on civil and human rights issues.

It is clear that the efforts of Dr. Cross and her colleagues paid off, as the E-Rate program has become a \$10 billion investment in our schools and libraries. Although the battles for the E-Rate program are by no means over, we stop to take a moment to recognize Mary M. Cross as a tireless Champion for Education and Technology. Dr. Cross is a Point-of-Light for all Americans.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN LINDER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast rollcall votes 478, 479, and 480 on September 21, 2005, because I was unavoidably detained on official business. Had I been present I would have cast the following votes: on rollcall No. 478, I would have voted "aye"; on rollcall No. 479, I would have voted "aye"; on rollcall No. 480, I would have voted "aye".

FREEDOM FOR RAFAEL MILLET LEYVA

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about Rafael Millet Leyva, a political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

Mr. Millet Leyva is President of the Martin Luther King Civic Resistance Movement. He believes in freedom, democracy, human rights and the rule of law. As a peaceful opponent of the tyrannical regime in Havana he has been the subject of constant abuse and harassment.

According to Amnesty International, in December 2001, Mr. Millet Leyva was pushed into a police vehicle and beaten and subsequently dumped in a remote area, after attempting to participate in an event celebrating the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Amnesty International also reports that he was again detained by the dictatorship in June, 2002.

Despite being the constant target of abuse by the regime, Mr. Millet Leyva continued to demand liberty for the men and women of Cuba. Unfortunately, in March 2003, as part of the tyrant's heinous island wide crackdown on peaceful, pro-democracy activists, Mr. Millet Leyva was arrested by the regime. For over 2 years, he has languished in a grotesque gulag awaiting a sham trial.

His wife reports, "The inhumane conditions my husband has been subjected to have not changed his convictions or his ideals." The courageous life of Mr. Millet Leyva is a won-

derful example of the heroism of the Cuban people. No matter how vile the repression, no matter how brutal the consequences of a dignified struggle for liberty, the totalitarian gulags are full of men and women of all backgrounds and ages who represent the best of the Cuban nation.

Mr. Speaker, it remains categorically unacceptable that men and women who demand freedom from tyranny are locked in the dungeons of monsters. We must continue to stand up and demand the liberation of all who suffer in the darkness of totalitarian rule. As we exercise our democratic rights, let us never forget those who are struggling to liberate the oppressed. My Colleagues, we must demand the immediate and unconditional release of Rafael Millet Leyva and every prisoner of conscience in totalitarian Cuba.

CELEBRATING THE BIRTH OF ROHAN KAPIL SHARMA

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today, I am happy to congratulate Persis and Kapil Sharma of Alexandria, Virginia, on the birth of their new baby boy. Rohan Kapil Sharma was born on September 15, 2005, at 12:50 a.m., weighing 6 pounds, 3 ounces and measuring 19 inches long. Rohan has been born into a loving home, where he will be raised by parents who are devoted to his well-being and bright future. His birth is a blessing. As a fellow graduate of Washington and Lee University I am particularly happy for the Kap Sharma family.

CHASE WILLIAM CUNNINGHAM MAKES HIS MARK ON THE WORLD

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Dan Cunningham and Ms. Jennifer Eberhardt both formerly members of my staff, now married and living in Wisconsin, on the birth of their first child, Master Chase William Cunningham. Chase was born on Thursday, September 15, 2005, and weighed 6 pounds and 11 ounces. My wife, Faye, joins me in wishing Dan and Jennifer great happiness during this very special time in their lives.

As a father and now as a grandfather, I know the joy, pride, and excitement that parents experience upon the entrance of their child into the world. Representing hope, goodness, and innocence, a newborn allows those around him to see the world through his eyes . . . as a new, fresh place with unending possibilities for the future. Through a child, one is able to recognize and appreciate the full potential of the human race. I know that Dan and Jennifer look forward to the changes and challenges that their new son will bring to their lives while taking pleasure in the many rewards they are sure to receive as they watch him grow.

I welcome young Chase into the world and wish Dan and Jennifer all the best as they raise him.

THE MEDICARE INFORMED CHOICE ACT: A FIRST STEP IN PROTECTING MEDICARE BENEFICIARIES

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleague, Representative PETE STARK, in introducing the Medicare Informed Choice Act, an immediate and essential first-step in protecting Medicare beneficiaries.

I believe that fundamental changes are needed to make the new Medicare drug benefit more affordable and less complicated. Along with my colleagues Representative MARION BERRY and BOB ANDREWS, I have introduced H.R. 752, the Medicare Prescription Drug Savings and Choice Act, which would establish a meaningful drug benefit in Medicare and require Medicare to negotiate for price discounts, as the VA and large employers do today. In the meantime, however, it is clear that Medicare's 42 million beneficiaries need immediate relief from the confusion and complexity of this fall's enrollment process. The Medicare Informed Choice Act would provide that relief by providing three simple changes in 2006: elimination of the late enrollment fee, a one-time opportunity for every beneficiary to switch plans, and protection against the loss of retiree health benefits.

I recently received a letter from a constituent, Phyllis Arist from Evanston, Illinois. She wrote:

I urge you to suspend the late-enrollment penalty for Medicare Part D.

Enrollment in Part D will be a challenge for anybody and everybody, whether that person is health care savvy or not. There will be dozens of complex plans that consumers will have to confront. How would you choose among a slew of different drug plans, each covering different drugs, using their own cost-sharing scheme, working with different pharmacy networks, and no guarantee that the plan will be around next year?

If Medicare Part D were a straight-forward benefit like Medicare Part B, the penalty might be justified. But given the circumstances, it is unfair. People with Medicare need more time to understand the new Medicare drug benefit. More time, combined with reliable and comprehensive information, will ensure more people are making the right choices and not taking a leap of faith into the unknown.

I agree with Ms. Arist. It is abundantly clear that the enrollment process for the new Medicare drug benefit is complicated, confusing and can result in bad decisions by beneficiaries. Any of us who have tried to explain the basic benefit to our constituents knows how difficult it is to do so, let alone explain the variations in the multiple private plans that will be available to senior citizens and persons with disabilities. Private plans will vary in terms of premiums, cost-sharing requirements, covered drugs, and pharmacy sources. Beneficiaries taking multiple medications will find it difficult to sort out their options, especially in areas like Chicago where about 50 plans are expected to be available.

No one who is on the ground believes that the support and outreach services will be available to provide the one-on-one counseling

that beneficiaries and their families will want and will require to make informed choices. As the former executive director of the Illinois Council of Senior Citizens, I know that it will take hours with each beneficiary, many of them taking multiple medications, to fully explain private plan options and how each choice will affect their access to the drugs they need. A majority of beneficiaries lack regular access to a computer or have the ability to navigate websites. A recent HHS Inspector General's report found that 44 percent of callers to the Medicare hotline had difficulty accessing information. Many beneficiaries are frail, some suffer from dementia, and others are not English-proficient. We have to reach beneficiaries living in Centers for Independent Living, nursing homes and isolated areas. And, of course, we have to address the needs of the evacuees from Hurricane Katrina.

Tina Kitchin, director of the Oregon Department of Human Services, is not alone in saying "I don't know how Oregon will successfully do this within this timeframe." The State Health Insurance Program coordinator for McLean County, Illinois, is asking beneficiaries to call early because, "There are too many people for us to handle all of them on or after November 15," the first day that enrollment can begin. Already, the constituent advocates in my own district office have had difficulty getting answers to questions about how the new federal drug benefit will coordinate with our state's pharmaceutical assistance program. And already, we are seeing constituents who are confused, scared and angry about the inability to get answers to their questions while being pressured to make a fast decision.

It is time to recognize that the late enrollment penalty imposed in the Medicare Modernization Act is unfair to the 42 million beneficiaries who want to make informed choices, will not have access to unbiased assistance in making those decisions, but who will face substantial and permanent late enrollment fees if they don't act by May 15th. The Medicare Informed Choice Act will give beneficiaries the time they need to make the decision that is right for them.

Senior citizens and persons with disabilities will face obstacles in getting access to independent information, but they will be inundated with materials from private plans seeking customers. Beginning next month, Medicare beneficiaries and their families will be subjected to multi-million advertising campaigns by insurers. As reported in *The Wall Street Journal* ("Insurers Bet Big on New Drug Benefit," September 7, 2005), "The payoff could be big. The new drug benefit is expected to boost 2006 revenue at seven of the largest health insurers by at least \$4.45 billion in 2006, and lift earnings by 2 percent to 4 percent according to CIBC World Markets analyst Carl McDonald." Some companies expect increased profit levels of 4 percent to 6 percent.

The pressure to make a quick decision will be enormous, particularly when coupled with a sales pitch arguing that failure to choose will result in a permanent, financial penalty. Without adequate, independent and personalized counseling, many beneficiaries will make the wrong decision. Getting rid of the late enrollment fee is only part of the solution. Our bill will give all beneficiaries the opportunity to switch their plan and enroll in one that better meets their needs, whether they enrolled by mistake or because they succumbed to sales pressure.

Finally, there is massive confusion about how the new Medicare drug benefit will mesh with current retiree benefits. Unfortunately, a beneficiary's misunderstanding and enrollment in a Medicare drug plan could result in the loss of retiree benefits. Again the Medicare Informed Choice Act gives a one-year grace period to sort out confusion and correct any errors.

I urge my colleagues to support the Medicare Informed Choice Act so that we can protect our constituents from unfair penalties or the loss of retiree benefits.

TRIBUTE TO ELAINE K. FREEMAN

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to Elaine K. Freeman, Vice President of Corporate Communications for Johns Hopkins Medicine upon her retirement after 23 years. Elaine epitomizes what is best in corporate communications—she fully understands Johns Hopkins Medicine and she has the skills and ability to communicate the success of Hopkins to the public.

During her tenure, Elaine has seen Hopkins become nationally ranked as the number one medical facility in the nation, according to the U.S. News and World Report. In 1989, she also helped Hopkins celebrate its centennial as one of the Nation's most outstanding medical institutions.

Elaine is a gifted professional who understands that the strengths of Hopkins rest with its staff and faculty. Over the years, she has helped the public understand and relate to the important medical advances that come out of Hopkins, enabling people to understand the relationship between research and the impact on patients.

Elaine is unique in that she truly understands the medical community, and the importance of scientific research. She is married to Dr. John Freeman, Professor of Neurology and Pediatrics. In 1969, John joined Hopkins to create and direct the Johns Hopkins Child Neurology program.

In 1958, Elaine graduated from Goucher College as a Phi Beta Kappa. She also earned a masters degree from George Washington University. In 2001, she received the Excellence in Medical Education Public Affairs award from the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC).

I urge my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in wishing Elaine Freeman a happy and healthy retirement. Her skill and dedication to communicating medical developments has helped the public gain a greater understanding of medical issues.

RECOGNIZING MARIA REZA

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to rise today to recognize a dear

friend and an outstanding educator, Maria Reza. In June 2005, Maria retired after 36 years of dedicated service to the Los Angeles Unified School District.

Maria believes that "to make a difference in the lives of our students, we must go beyond the classroom and work to improve the community and the environment in which they live." Throughout her career, Maria has embodied this belief and has dedicated her life to not only helping children learn in the classroom, but also to improving lives and conditions within our communities. Over the years, Maria has volunteered for the United Farm Workers, the Southwest Voter Registration Project and has devoted much of her life to serving the students and residents of the Northeast San Fernando Valley.

After graduating from San Fernando Valley State College, Maria started teaching at San Fernando High School in 1969. During her first year, she was recognized as "Intern of the Year" by the Los Angeles Unified School District Internship Program Office. In 1975, she was hired as a Resource Teacher in the Central Office and soon became District Home Economics Supervisor. She pioneered the Infant Study Program at Ramona, Roosevelt and Locke High Schools. This program continues to offer free childcare for high school age parents as well as provide them with valuable parenting skills.

As an assistant principal, Maria, along with a school nurse, Pam Wagner, established the first three school-based health clinics in LAUSD. The project faced much controversy and was opposed by some conservative organizations and churches. However, Maria knew the importance of providing health care to uninsured students and continued to work tirelessly to gain the support of students and parents. The proof of her efforts is overwhelmingly apparent today with over 40 school-based or school-linked clinics which provide a low cost, accessible form of health care. The demand for these programs continues to grow.

Among her many accomplishments, Maria Reza has distinguished herself as a strong female role model in the community. She has been recognized twice as "Woman of the Year," in 1992 by State Senator David Roberti and again in 1998 by State Senator Richard Alarcón. She was invited to participate in the HOPE, Hispanas Organized for Political Equality, leadership training and this year chaired the Adelante Mujer Conference, giving 300 young women the opportunity to attend career workshops conducted by professional Latinas.

Maria also has the distinction of being married to my good friend Alex Reza, a retired educator and an extraordinary community activist whom I have had the pleasure of knowing for many years. She is also the mother of three sons, Lance, Roman and David.

Mr. Speaker, Maria has set an admirable example for those who are committed to making a difference in the lives of others. It is with great pride that I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Maria Reza, a woman whose dedication and achievements are a credit to our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF MERYL
MENASHE

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Meryl Menashe, who was recently named a Museum Teacher Fellow for the 2005–06 academic year by the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

Meryl, one of only fifteen teachers from across the Nation chosen to be a Museum Teacher Fellow this year, demonstrated extensive knowledge of Holocaust history, a record successful teaching experience, and a history of participation in community and professional organizations. She joins over 200 Museum Teacher Fellows in the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's program, all of whom continue to serve as community leaders in Holocaust education.

As a Museum Teacher Fellow, Meryl will create an outreach project to bring Holocaust education to groups outside the walls of the traditional school environment. This may include distance learning, working with adult groups, or conducting programs in schools, the community, or other professional organizations. Mr. Speaker, I cannot stress enough the importance of Holocaust education. We must never forget. We must teach and remember the Holocaust because genocide is real. It is not history, it is reality.

Meryl will be returning to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum throughout the year for further training and to report on her outreach project. Once the 2005–06 academic year is over, she will continue to advance American Holocaust education by supporting future fellows, and, of course, continuing to lead the effort in our community.

Mr. Speaker, it is with a great pride that I rise to commend Meryl Menashe. Her dedication to Holocaust education, a sad but necessary task, is extraordinary and she is well deserving of her appointment as a United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Teacher Fellow. I ask all my colleagues in the House of Representatives to please join me in honoring Meryl for her efforts and wishing her many more years of success.

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT
COLONEL BAYARD "VIC" TAYLOR

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to an outstanding American who has given so much to our nation, yet asks for so little—former U.S. Marine Corps Lieutenant Colonel Bayard "Vic" Taylor.

Vic did not just wear the uniform of a United States Marine. From the beginning of his Marine Corps career, he lived the life of a Marine, dedicated to serving his country and improving the primary responsibility of each Marine—to understand and execute the tactics of the rifleman.

Vic first enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1957 and served in Hawaii and the Far East until

his release from military duty in 1960. With the war in Vietnam intensifying, he reenlisted in the Marine Corps in 1967 to fight during what many consider to be the war's darkest years. The Second Battalion, Fourth Marines were fortunate to have Vic as both a rifle platoon and company commander, where he was awarded the distinguished Silver Star, two Bronze Stars with Combat V, two Purple Hearts, the Navy Commendation Medal with Combat V, and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Silver Star.

In the jungles and battlefields of Vietnam, Vic quickly became familiar with intense and close quarter combat. Aside from leading a number of attacks against North Vietnamese Army fortifications along the Cua Viet River, he fought in the infamous battle for Dai Do. For many Vietnam veterans, the battle for Dai Do is not only a story of extreme heroism and courage, but also remains a testament to the brave men and fighting spirit of the United States Marine Corps. The victory at Dai Do can be credited to the extraordinary bravery, competence, initiative, toughness, and selflessness of individual Marines and small unit leaders like Vic Taylor who carried the day.

Vic's demonstrated knowledge of infantry tactics, techniques, and weaponry led to an assignment as an instructor at the Basic School in Quantico, Virginia, where he was later tasked with the responsibility of creating an improved Infantry Officer's Course (IOC). The need for such a course was predicated on the threat posed by our Cold War enemies and its purpose was to ensure Marines possessed the knowledge and training beyond basic infantry courses that were completed by officers in all occupational fields.

With the first class scheduled for May of 1977, Vic immediately gathered two equally creative and knowledgeable Marines, Terry Paul and Will Oler, as partners in this endeavor. They first determined the course should prepare newly acquainted infantry officers for the realities of combat. This meant managing a rifle platoon, obtaining increased weapons proficiency, and leading a rifle company in the event the Captain is either wounded or killed. However, during the course's development, it grew beyond expectations and featured not only tactics and weaponry, but also communications, demolitions, rough terrain skills and operations. While part of the instruction was derived from existing Marine Corps field manuals, much of it was original, drawn from Vic's personal experiences.

The IOC was completed on schedule and graduated its first class in June of 1977. The Marine Corps had a new Lieutenant, schooled to confront the dangers of combat and lead his fellow Marine through its peril.

The course has since increased in breadth and length, and rather than a six week curriculum as originally planned, it has expanded to 13 weeks and now includes an instructive desert operation course that has undoubtedly prepared our Marines for duty in Iraq and Afghanistan. Vic took great pride in knowing that this course would challenge each infantry officer with extreme circumstances and unique environments, similar to what he faced in the battle of Dai Do.

The infantryman shares a common bond that unlike many other service occupations, strengthens amongst trial and adversity. Their necessity, coupled with their sacrifice, should never be forgotten in the minds of Americans

and will surely never be forgotten in the mind of the Marine. For each distinguished graduate leaving the IOC, nothing is more appropriate than expressing appreciation for this type of warrior's accomplishment than honoring him with tools of the trade. Knowing that the respect and history of the infantry lives in its weaponry, Vic thought it essential to provide each distinguished IOC graduate with a .45 caliber automatic Colt pistol—the weapon he often resorted to in combat and the weapon many of these Marines will continue to rely on in similar circumstances. He took it upon himself and endowed the Marine Corps University Foundation to maintain this distinguished award in perpetuity, citing each of these Marines as "the Lieutenant I'd most like to have on my flank."

Mr. Speaker, President Ronald Reagan once said, "Some people spend an entire lifetime wondering if they made a difference. The Marines don't have that problem." While I fully believe this to be true, I also feel that it is the service and dedication of Marines like Vic Taylor that validates this statement. Without his contribution and concern, it is likely that our fighting men and women on the ground would not have the knowledge and experience they possess today.

Despite Vic's retirement from the military in 1985, his leadership and guidance continues to serve the Marine Corps and will do so for years to come. Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in giving the thanks and respect Bayard "Vic" Taylor deserves for his service to the Marine Corps and to our nation.

CONGRATULATING CWA PRESIDENT
MORTON BAHR ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my good friend Morton "Morty" Bahr, on his retirement as President of the Communications Workers of America after over 50 years of service to the union and the nation.

Morty Bahr has been with CWA for longer than I have been in Congress, and together we have fought and won many battles on behalf of working men and women. After his service as a radio operator for the Merchant Marine during World War II, Morty joined CWA in 1951 as an in-plant organizer for Mackay Radio and Telegraph in New York. In 1957, he joined the staff of CWA and succeeded in his first assignment: organizing 24,000 plant workers at New York Telephone. He later served as vice president of District 1 covering New York, New Jersey and New England, and was elected CWA president in 1985.

When Morty assumed the top leadership role, CWA was still reeling from the breakup of the AT&T Bell System, a system that employed half a million union workers. After the split, both labor and management recognized that workers would need to develop new skills to remain competitive within AT&T and throughout the industry. Under Morty's leadership, the union formed the Alliance for Competitive Growth and Development, an innovative partnership dedicated to the career success of each individual union-represented

worker. I am happy to say that the Alliance has been a great success, with 170,000 participants, nearly 1 million course enrollments and over 12.5 million hours of training.

Morty Bahr is a pioneer of the Information Age. His effort to furnish workers with the tools they need to improve their lives not only created the telecommunications technicians who are integral to our economy, but it also made America the leader in all manner of communications. This effort is of particular importance today, as America faces the daunting task of maintaining its role as a global leader in the research and development of new science and technology.

The Alliance is only one of the many revolutionary partnerships and programs Morty has guided and nurtured throughout his career. Others include the National Coalition for Telecommunications Education and Learning (NACTEL), one of the first partnerships of major telecom companies working together with their unions to advance education. NACTEL is an online learning partnership with CWA, IBEW, Verizon, SBC, Qwest and Citizens/Frontier.

Morty and his wife Florence recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary and have two children, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. As Morty begins his retirement, I hope you will join me in wishing Florence and him a healthy and relaxing journey. His heartfelt dedication to the workers of this nation will not be forgotten.

IN SUPPORT OF THE CAMPAGNA CENTER

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Campagna Center, the leading nonprofit human services organization in the city of Alexandria, Virginia. For 60 years, the Campagna Center has served low-income citizens in my district, providing both Early Head Start and Head Start programs to over 300 income-eligible families. The center also provides child care, tutoring, and mentoring programs to school-aged children, and meaningful volunteer opportunities to older members of my district.

The work of organizations like the Campagna Center is crucial to the development of children who come from lower-income households, offering the opportunity to truly level the playing field for these children and prepare them for school. The programs offered at the Campagna Center include early childhood education, as well as health and nutritional services. The Campagna Center, however, recognizes that family is the most important influence in a child's life, and parents and other family members are strongly encouraged to be active contributors to these programs.

Recognition of this wonderful organization is especially poignant as this body debates HR 2123, School Readiness Act of 2005. It has been said that Education is the great equalizer in a democratic society, and we must ensure that programs like these continue to receive the funding required to help children achieve. The impact of Head Start programs is not measured in dollars, but in the faces of children who finally have the opportunity to excel in their education.

The Campagna Center has provided such opportunities to students in my home district, and the impact on these children is significant. I congratulate the Board of Directors, staff members, and all of the selfless volunteers that make this organization such a success. Under their leadership, hundreds of young children go to school prepared for the challenges that lie before them.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PETS EVACUATION AND TRANSPORTATION STANDARDS (PETS) ACT OF 2005

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am joined today by my colleagues, CHRISTOPHER SHAYS of Connecticut, Mr. DON YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. JAMES OBERSTAR of Minnesota, and Mr. BARNEY FRANK of Massachusetts to urge our colleagues to join with me in introducing H.R. 3858, the Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards (PETS) Act of 2005. This common sense legislation would simply require state and local preparedness groups to include

plans for evacuating pet and service animals in the event of a major disaster.

The destructive force of Hurricane Katrina exposed many flaws in our nation's emergency preparedness programs, and any disaster plan's top priority must be to save citizens from the affected areas. One easily correctible issue that has come to light, however, is the fact that many of our cities' plans do not incorporate a protocol for rescuing pet owners. Without a corrected protocol, pet owners are unnecessarily forced to choose between their own safety and the safety of their pets.

Mr. Speaker, as you may know, in order for a state to qualify for FEMA funding, state and local emergency preparedness authorities are required to submit a plan on how they will deal with a disaster. This legislation does not transfer any funds from planners or rescuers, but rather requires states to include how they plan to accommodate their incumbent pet population as well as people with disabilities that are aided by service animals. FEMA will require the jurisdictions to submit their emergency preparedness plans in order to be eligible for FEMA funding assistance in the event of a disaster.

In hurricane-ravaged New Orleans, the lack of planning added to the burden and stress of both rescuers and residents. In a city of 500,000 as many as 69 percent of the people are pet owners and, by some estimates, there are as many as 600,000 pets and animals affected by the devastation of hurricane Katrina. Private rescue organizations estimate they have saved about 5,000 animals so far and have reunited only 600 animals with their owners. Estimates indicate there are an equal percentage of pet owners nationwide. Given these statistics, we hope you agree an emergency plan that incorporates pets is warranted.

Mr. Speaker, the faces of the men and women stranded in flooded New Orleans will be forever etched in my mind. The images of little children with nothing in the world other than the shirts on their backs still disturb me at night. But I cannot help but wonder how many more people could have been spared the wrath of Hurricane Katrina if only they could have taken the family pet.